The role of teachers in producing globally competitive learners is very important. They play a vital role in building the nation because they have a great duty of nurturing minds of individuals who will soon take part in contributing positive changes in the country. Due to this crucial role, they should provide quality teaching which will equip the learners with 21st century skills, preparing them in keeping with the pace of the fast changing world and enabling students to propel the country to its advances.

In a Department of Education (DepEd) press release, the department implemented the DepEd Order No. 42, series of 2017 or the National Adoption and Implementation of the Philippine Professional Standards for Teachers wherein Education Secretary Leonor M. Briones stated that due to the introduction of national and international frameworks such as the K to 12 program and ASEAN integration, the new set of standards for teachers is propelled. PPST delineates the skills and competencies that quality teachers should have in able for them to cope with the emerging global frameworks.

The PPST distinguishes the significance of the professional standards to assure that the schools across the country are having skilled teachers who are capable of delivering quality teaching which is crucial in cultivating learners in able for them to be equipped with the skills needed in reaching their full potentials and the peak of their performance. PPST is also important in coping with the demands and changing needs brought by the K to 12 program in which the standards brought by the curriculum are getting higher to ensure its effective implementation.
According to a report of PTV News (2018) regarding PPTS, its target is to “produce better teachers in the country by improving their qualifications skills and by increasing their levels of knowledge, practice and professional engagement.” Further, the set of professional standards for teachers is anchored on the principle of lifelong learning which articulates their developmental progression. As Briones pointed out, PPST will be the basis for all learning and development programs for teachers to ensure that they are properly equipped to effectively implement the K to 12 program.

Through PPTV, the performances of the teachers will be monitored and it would be a great way to determine who perform well in their teaching endeavors. Teachers could also use these for ranking and promotions but those are only secondary because the main goal is to provide immense performances for the sake of their students. Also, DepEd Order No. 42, series of 2017 could also be one of the ways to refine qualification skills for teachers in able to be assured that the schools in the country are hiring teachers that are capable of providing excellent learning for the students.

Mark Anthony Llego (2018) said that “the changes brought about by various national and global frameworks such as the K to 12 Reform and the ASEAN integration, globalization, and the changing character of the 21st century learners necessitate improvement and adaptability of education, and a call for rethinking of the current teacher standards.” Also, he said that good teachers are vital to raising student achievement, therefore, refining the quality of teachers becomes of ‘utmost importance’ for long-term and sustainable nation building.

The increasing and improving demands in education are inevitable. The changing character of the 21st century learners require upgrade in the competencies and skills of teachers in order for them to cope with the advancements in education. Hence, teachers must not settle into some of their qualities that were not improved yet because the knowledge and strategies that they have before may not be applicable to the present times. For the sake of nation building and nurturing young minds to save our country, teachers must bear in mind that they are working hard to produce learners that will
become hopes of our nation, and the credentials that they will be getting are just secondary.

Reference:

http://www.depedresources.com/deped-adopts-philippine-professional-standard-for-teachers/
