QUALITIES OF A GOOD SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

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The principal is the leader of the school. He/ She is responsible in the school management as well as the education of each learner under his/her wings. Therefore, he/she must possess these certain characteristics to be a good principal (Kelly, 2019).

Provides Support – Personnel and faculty in school need to feel supported, most especially during those trying and confusing times with regard to life and work, most of the time. They need to have an assurance that during those moments, when there is an issue in their classrooms, with their works in school, they will have someone from whom they can get the help they need.

Highly Visible – Someone who can always be seen, not just inside the office, but anywhere in the school and the community as well because a good principal must not stay in his/her office only. He/ She must be seen by the teachers, students and stakeholders. He/ She should also participate and get involved in the different school activities. The level of visibility should be highly notable.

Effective Listener – He/ She knows the value of lending his/her ear to someone especially to the subordinates to show he/she cares for them, must listen to what they have to say for a great communication is one of the tools for a successful school, and must make sure that not only his/her voice is heard.

Problem-Solver – As issues and conflicts arise in school, he/she should not take a side, but should take a stand to resolve the conflict and make sure to end the day that both parties are reconciled and at peace with each other. The principal must listen to both sides
of the story before giving his/her response that will ensure the spread of peace and clarity among everyone.

Empowers Others – As he/she elevates his/her standards of professionalism toward his/her work, it should also reflect on the people that surround him/ her. Principals need to give their subordinates a sense of empowerment. They must be open and responsive to everyone’s suggestions for classroom, school, and professional improvement.

Has a Clear Vision – As a leader, the principal must foresee a future that enables all to realize their full potential. His/ Her attitude and vision need to be loud and clear because there is a bigger and brighter future for those who work with all available resources. There will always be an ongoing process of development in the school be it for faculty, administration and all.

Fair and Consistent - Just like a parent, an effective principal must be equal, fair and consistent to all his/her subordinates. He/ She must not show or have favoritism. He/ She must hear and analyze both sides of the story, and not just cling and hold grudges into one person.

Discreet – Privacy and exclusiveness observed, all administrators must be discreet in all aspects inside and outside the school. For that is how the principal will earn the trust of the teachers, staff and everyone.

Dedicated – Keeping in mind nation first, and for most of the time service for others, a good administrator must be dedicated to the school, and his decision must be made in terms of the best interests of the school and of the students.

It will never be easy to possess these qualities. They are not learnt in a day or two. They are not in the masteral certificate nor in one hundred seminars attended to, but if the principal loves his/her work and his/her school, all of these could be attained.
References:

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