ROLE OF EDUCATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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The term “21st century” has become an important part of educational planning today for the future. Educators and educational managers are continuously finding ways to build students prepared for the future. On that note, the educational system has been redressing faster.

Studies shown that rote memorization is not an effective learning technique, as well as that teacher-centered classrooms may not be as efficient set-up for the engagement of learning. However, the schools and educators are trying to figure out their role in the proper delivery of education to these 21st century learners.

Way back years ago, the role of a teacher as to prepare the learners for certain tasks they are expected to comply with. Other than these are the values and cultures that are needed to transmit through the generations for the survival of beliefs.

But today, we are in a new world. The society nowadays is a mix of different beliefs and cultures. Globalization has opened up the world that allows people to link in new, innovative and exciting ways. We can now gain unique beliefs that are not taught inside the classroom, but developed by experiences and passions.

In general, it is remained that the core role of education is to make our learners to become active, successful, and functional members of the society. On the other hand, we have to consider that the society has changed. We may not suffice the preparation of these learners that will exist tomorrow if we continue the practice of yesterday.

In order to prepare them, few things need to be considered in making decisions on how our education will look in our school and classrooms.
1. Student-centered instruction

The main source of knowledge in the classroom shall be the learners themselves, not the teacher anymore – though not totally. The teacher would act as facilitator in order to acquire information when problems arise. They would connect their prior knowledge to the new information to solve the problem. In this case, they will learn by themselves.

2. Collaborative education

The main essence of letting them to collaborate with others is for them to be ready and open to work with other people from other cultures in the future. Learners must be encouraged to work together to unfold information, connecting one to another, and to construct meaning from it. By this mean, they should practice identifying and analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of each person that could bring them into success of learning.

3. Learning through context

While the learners are encouraged to learn in different ways, the teacher should still provide guidance as to the necessary skills they need to acquire. The teacher can make help the learners to understand that the skills they are building can be applied to their real lives.

4. Society integration to the school

Schools could also prepare learners to become responsible citizens by creating events for the school community. Encourage learners to join committees as well as in taking part in school projects. The school can even do programs that would engage learners to participate in helping the community such as clean-up.

With the technology and of the internet today, our learners can do even more.
References:

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