THE ESSENTIAL CONNECTION

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The 21st Century has brought dramatic changes to society at large. Through technology, people from different parts of the world have become more connected today than they were in the past. This means that huge amounts of information can be easily accessed in seconds. This change has prompted a rewiring of how human beings think and what is deemed worth learning.

Sternberg, Robert J. (2000) learning styles constitute a new, exciting, and holistically framework for the understanding of learning and then re-engineering of education. This means that gaining information is no longer an end in itself.

As a 21st Century learner, one must require the knowledge and skills that are important in meeting the demands of the academe and the industry. Students should be encouraged to explore more and go beyond the limit of a defined body of knowledge like learning about life skills, critical thinking and creativity, where learners are able to acquire the essential knowledge, skills and right attitude to navigate the world.

Thanat Khomar (2002) stated that building a new society that will be responsive to the needs of our time and to efficiently bring about advancement of our people, coupled with the spirit of give and take, of equality and respect which will be eventually the rewards of a brighter future.

Teachers must always tap and enhance the multiple intelligences and learning potentials of the students where a wholistic and humanistic model should be used to understand human development. There should be a balance in the relationship between
curriculum content and real-life situations. Teaching and learning should go beyond classroom experiences.

Thus, the capacity to launch and engage in proactive actions that embody universal values which will eventually reap the rewards of the maze of our educational system to ensure that it will surely make every 21st learner fully developed within the range of their individual capacities which makes all the difference.

With this, teacher-factor is very important in creating, building and shaping the kind of learners we may have- new knowledge, new methodologies, new ways of thinking, doing and being- all essentials for our learners to use to cross over successfully into the new century, into the empires of the future.

References: