THE LEADER’S MOST IMPORTANT JOB

by:

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One of the benefits of the new role of the Filipino principals is that they are now more empowered to infuse systemic change rather than simply manage the school and the people in them. A leader’s most important job is selecting and appraising people, and this job should never be delegated.

Leadership has a direct cause and effect relationship upon organizations and their success. Leaders determine values, culture, change tolerance and employee motivation. They shape institutional strategies including their execution and effectiveness. Leaders can appear at any level of an institution and are not exclusive to management. Successful leaders do, however, have one thing in common. They influence those around them in order to reap maximum benefit from the organization’s resources, including its most vital and expensive:

In an organization, dialogue is the core of culture and the basic unit of work, how people talk to each other absolutely determines how well the organization will function. In the school, the principal become more effective, and the principals are described as the “gatekeepers of change” They should set clear goals and priorities. Leaders who excute focus on a very few clear priorities that everyone can grasp. The all encompassing role of the school head is to develop the capacity of the school to achieve high levels of achievement for all.

One of the leadership responsibilities of the principal is to establish moral purpose. Student learning should be the central focus for all decision-making. This is the moral purpose the principal must establish in the school. He or she is required to commit to a
vision of the school as a “community of learners” and develop a workable approach to meet this vision.

Reference:

Espayos, M.A. The Filipino Principal of the 21st Century. The Educator, Eferza Publishing 2005