THE PRINCIPAL: THE HEART AND MIND OF THE SCHOOL

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What governs the school is the principal. A school with a positive school culture depicts an institution where the teachers and students are high performing because of the leadership style being practiced by the principal. As noted in the National School Climate Standards, “empirical research has shown that when school members feel safe, valued, cared for, engaged, and respected, learning measurably increases, and staff satisfaction and retention are enhanced.” This can be made possible by a principal who manages the school with heart and mind combined.

Being the heart and mind of the school, the principal is the person whom every personnel and staff in the school looks up to as a leader, he/she sees to it that his/her teachers have materials, facilities and budget necessary to adequately perform their tasks, actively supports day to day instructional programs by modeling desired behaviors, participating in in-service trainings and consistently prioritizes instructional concerns, and is highly accessible to faculty and staff.

The principal also directs, interacts and persuade followers to engage in tasks. As a leader, he/she also adopts her leadership to the maturity of her followers based on their willingness and ability to perform a task.

Likewise, the role of the Principal is to develop the human being with a high degree of character, integrity, honesty and credibility with courageous heart and independent mind who can transmit and enrich their social economic, cultural, physical, mental and spiritual.
And when a principal puts all these qualities and skills together and in place, he would most likely be creating a real difference for the school, teachers and students.

References:

National School Climate Standards. National School Climate Center, New York.