THE SCHOOL HEADS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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There are school heads now a days who are happy performing their job because the position they are holding on is the fulfillment of their dreams. But, in the present scenario, it is not easy to hand the position. One should pass the National Qualifying Examination for School heads.

The expectations from the community as well as from the higher Deped officials are very high. Once you perform the job of the principal, honesty and integrity are considered so that respect could be felt. Commitment and dedication count next. But are these qualities suffice the requirements to be tagged as 21st century leaders?

No. It is exactly no. The 21st century leaders are those transformational leaders. They are also technology leaders, and most importantly, instructional leaders.

It is wise to state that before being a school head, affirmation on the nature of the job of being a transformational leader, technology leader and instructional leader must be within one’s system.

Wedell (2012) states that transformational leaders work towards a noble vision, act with authenticity and honesty, adopt growth mindset and positive results promote creativity and new ideas.

In addition, a transformational leader is somebody who could work with co-workers to strategize needed changes in the existing culture into a more productive one, guided by the vision and mission of the school, without sacrificing the resources, feelings of the subordinates and staff as well as the standards of the department. In the
implementation of those changes, the members of the group are with the leader to monitor development and lapses for immediate adjustment.

Purdue Polytechnic formulates success as “Technology (knowledge) + Leadership (skills) = SUCCEED”.

The author’s formula clearly speaks for the need of the school head to acquire knowledge in technology. At present, there is lesser productivity without utilizing the computer. And lesser production is a failure. Success is what we need. A technology leader shows sample. It is a must for a principal to learn how to use the computer in making reports, manuscript, memos, letters and communications without disturbing other members of the organization who are performing their own tasks. Today is the peak of computer generation, one should decide to learn for efficiency and productivity. Teachers should also be guided and given opportunities for computer advancement. And it must be included in the School Plan for Professional Development.

A blog from Room 241 Team designates that Instructional leadership involves setting clear objectives, managing curriculum, monitoring lesson plan, allocating resources and evaluating teachers regularly to promote student learning and growth. Quality of Instruction is the top priority for the instructional principal.

An instructional leader is somebody who could motivates people to translate vision into action. There is a need for a clear vision and explicit instructions that lead to the attainment of the objectives of the organization. More so, the resources, supplies must also be provided to teachers for them to perform and facilitate the teaching and learning process.

Above all, school administrators should understand and perform the requirements of their roles: they should be transformational leaders, technology leaders, and instructional leaders...they must be the 21st century leaders for the students of the 21st century!!!
References:

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