TRANSFORMATIONAL TEACHERS: A CHALLENGE TO EVERYONE
By: Lorelie Tantek-Gloria
T-I, Sta. Lucia High School

It is always a challenge to every teachers to amplify and develop the ability and understanding of the different nature of the millennial learners. When teachers engage learners to self-discover personal identities, talents and skills, and work over the learning plans, make simple classroom to a functional room for learning can be called as transformational teachers. It is the role of the teacher to actively keep learners in the classroom activities by balancing teaching strategies and learning strategies.

Transformative education, Llagas (2012) requires a “shift away” from current educational practices. It espouses transformative learning - which revises old assumptions and ways of interpreting experience through critical reflection and self-reflection, and transformation encompasses the guiding principle that underpins educational endeavour.

The key characteristics of transformative education as mention by Llagas are:

- creative, solutions-focused learning;
- self-directed team work;
- learning by doing (commonly “live” projects);
- initiative refinement and reflection;
- drawing from a range of disciplines.

She also magnified that transformative education focuses on active learnings strategies like:

- group discussions-dyads, panel discussion
- educational games-crossword puzzles
• field trips, interactive exhibits
• debate-gather data / logical arguments
• role playing of real life situation
• brainstorming-carousel exercise
• demonstration – construct meaning based on observation and first-hand experience
• concept mapping-link together important ideas
• simulation-structured to feel like real experience

Transformational teachers should carefully plan lessons ahead to carefully integrate the necessary learning opportunities that the students will experience in real life situations. Provide them opportunities to accomplish and motivate them by using teaching and learning strategies appropriate to transform learners.

Although the Department of Education has hoped to institutionalize life based education, it is then the support of the teachers to have transformative education. The need to safeguard our learners by creating classroom environment with safe, free from chaos, and fears is utmost importance to facilitate transformative learning.

Reference: