

TEACHERS AS LEADERS AND FOLLOWERS

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Teaching denotes huge responsibilities. Teachers can be leaders and followers at the same time. But the question is: how can teachers demonstrate leadership and show to be good followers?

Teachers can be good leaders in many different ways. An example of it is when teachers organize an event in the school involving students as well as co-teachers. Teachers can lead a school activity for the benefit of the learners. They can initiate programs, like school learning action cell sessions, feeding program, nutrition month celebration, sports festival, and the like. Teachers can also organize and lead meetings. Teachers show leadership in a variety of ways, whether for the students or for the schools.

In addition, teachers can display good leadership through making decisions, especially when dealing with students' academic performance like to prepare intervention for students who lagged behind the lessons and what should be done to help learners improve performance. Teachers as leaders are important in the smooth flow of activities on the school campus. Because teachers have leadership capabilities that are developed through the years of teaching experience and meeting other DepEd stakeholders. That is why it is a must that all teachers should improve leadership abilities.

According to Suda (2013), the role of the leaders is to influence the followers. This means that leaders can influence their followers. Applying this role to the teaching profession, teachers can influence their co-teachers to become responsible individuals of the organization or department. Varney (2022) added that good leaders are role models of the followers.

It seems that teachers are good leaders. But we can say that they are at first good followers and role models to the students. Teachers mirror individuals who know how to follow, whether a simple instruction, an order, or a law. Also, they know how to follow or do their responsibilities as educators. It is essential to become a good follower in the teaching profession, because students may imitate teacher's behavior. Teachers can be good followers in many simple ways. Take for instance, teachers can be good followers when they come to school on time, and attend and leave classes based on the schedule. Another event in which teachers can be good followers is when they obey rules and regulations inside the school, like proper wearing of school uniform, attending flag ceremony, and proper disposal of garbage. These acts show that teachers as good followers may be considered simple, but students look at their teachers as role models. In these ways, teachers emphasize the importance of following orders and at the same time reflect the image of good leaders that want their students to do the same.

Teachers are good leaders that nobody can question it, but they are also good followers that every student can emulate. To be considered a good leader, one must be a good follower as the saying goes by.

References:

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