

IT IS LEARNING THAT MATTERS IN TEACHING

by:

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“Do not worry that children never listen to you. Worry that they are always watching you.” This quotation said by Robert Fulghum touches my heart as I read the book “The Inspirational Teacher”. In my rich seven years of working as a teacher, I realized that it is not only the pedagogical skills that matter most for you to fulfill your duties as a professional teacher but your capability to leave a mark on the hearts and minds of your students on how competent and good you are as a teacher.

Teaching is not only a concerted process of imparting knowledge and skills. It is also a vital process of imprinting your professional self in your learners’ eyes. As part of the educative process, teaching must be filled with educative media assisted by pedagogical approaches and strategies to effectively and efficiently execute the process of imparting and sharing knowledge, skills, and values. As one of the many educational media, teachers must bear in their minds the proper pedagogical planning to be applied in sharing and imparting learning. Also, as a medium of education, teachers must unleash the sense of efficacy of the educative process by integrating and applying learning to real-life experiences.

As a professional in the field of education, I must keep in mind that teaching is not just about wanting your students to learn from you. It is also about your desire to further your learnings in teaching by observing yourself day by day to identify your professional necessities, and from these needs, you will know what else you need to learn and prepare for to improve your teaching. There is a saying, “Once a teacher, forever a student.” There is a part in the book that says, “Great teachers do not wish their students were better;

great teachers look for ways to become better themselves”. Yes, I have a rich four years of pre-service preparation to equip me with the knowledge, skills, and attitude to become an effective and efficient teacher. I am not saying that it is not relevant, but this period of preparation is not enough for me to cope with the alteration of the educational system and behavioral changes of the students as time goes by. Teaching is dynamic in accordance with the standards of the stakeholders, schools, and educational agencies so, I have to adapt to these relevant changes for the betterment of my teaching skills. Change is inevitable and takes place everywhere. Technology advances, culture changes, knowledge increases, and behavior revises. We are agents of change and we are those who are making these changes, and for us to cope with the challenges resulting from various development in our surroundings, we need to reinvent ourselves.

For me, as a teacher, pedagogical skills are already given and can be further enhanced, but it is also important to consider the capacity of your professional self to leave an impact on your students. This impact can inspire your students or tell how good you are as a teacher. Also, this impact can tell how incompetent and bad you are as a teacher.

In my perception as a teacher, it is significant to “begin with the end in mind” for what you wish to accomplish with your students and takes time to “turn back the clock” and consider ways in which you can contribute to the present and future of your students. Take time to socialize with your students by sharing your experiences, which can lead them to discover the humanity in you.

As a teacher and a manager of your classroom, you must lead your students so that they may be empowered with your knowledge, skills, attitude, and principles which are embodied in your philosophy of life as a teacher, as a member of the workforce, and as a molder of the child’s future. Knowing your roles as a teacher enables you to understand the limitations of your actions. You should not only know the content of the subject you teach but also the ways how to relate this content to the world outside the classroom and how to keep your students involved in learning.

A teacher with the capability to inspire students is a teacher who can give a remarkable, positive impact on his students. Inspiring students is vital to ensure their success and encourage them to fulfill their skills and abilities. Students who are inspired by their teachers can make and accomplish amazing things, and that motivation almost always stays with them. That is because inspiration is one of the most significant gifts a teacher can give to students. A teacher that inspires is an influence and a good example that goes far beyond academic achievement and advancements. If you want to fulfill the needs of being a great educator, you must connect with your students and reach them along with their individual differences. because the best teachers are dedicated and committed to their students both inside and outside the classroom: these are the makings of a best teacher.

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