

THE LEADERS WE OUGHT TO BE

by:

Ronualdo D. Balopeños

Teacher III, Jose C. Payumo Jr. Memorial High School

Touching countless lives and influencing the outcomes of so many futures is the total epitome of a teacher. We are placed on a higher pedestal than most professions as we impact lives, even in ways that we are not aware of. The values we impart, the principles we uphold, and the beliefs we espoused are etched in the minds of our students forever.

No two teachers are exactly the same, we differ in the best ways, especially in honing our students. Teachers are perceived as leaders within the four walls of the classrooms, and this is where our influences are engraved. How we deal with the conflicts inside the classroom, the challenges in handling diverse attitudes, and the various disciplines we impose create a sketch of the type of leader that we are.

Moreover, a leader's style, as well as their method of encouraging their students, plays a vital role in a student's success. A teacher, who spends more time with the learners than most parents, is critical in developing the learners; if they are ineffective, students will suffer. Contrary to this, our younger generation will blossom when their teachers allow them to develop higher-order thinking skills and show learners what a leader must do and act in various circumstances. With these, the universe opens the best avenues for them. As a teacher, it is critical that you sharpen your leadership abilities and identify the ideal teaching style as this will be the foundation of your students.

The ultimate objective is to move the students from regurgitation to higher realization. In the long run, it will be advantageous for both the teacher and the student if teachers take the time to explain the "whys." Purpose and direction are related. The

steps we will take to achieve that significant goal are our direction. We lack the framework for learning if there are no steps taken or directions given. Your lessons will be more effective if you give minor jobs priority (you must teach numbers before adding them). You are creating the checklist for your pupils to complete as they go to greater learning by outlining the direction or path for them to take.

Also, employing the combined, collaborative, participative, and directive modes of instruction. Every circumstance calls for common sense and some modifying, of course, but you wouldn't want to approach learners instilling a fully free-and-easy mentality. The directed method of instruction consists only of lectures, which sends most of the class to sleep. With clear directions and no student involvement, this is teacher-centered. With learners who are naturally interested in the subject, this can be done successfully, but for the vast majority of students who "have no choice but to take this class," it becomes tedious.

On the other hand, giving students the freedom to solve problems and make decisions on their own, typically without consulting the teacher, is a key component of the delegation style. This works well with very mature kids who need to develop independence and broaden their ideas. Simply said, the teacher poses an issue, provides only rudimentary guidance, and then expects the learners to come up with a solution. In certain ways, this can only be effective if the students have a fundamental comprehension and prior knowledge of how to approach the topic.

We, teachers, have a greater impact than we expected; our beliefs mixed with our leadership style and our life experiences affects our teaching and leading. Leaders cannot be "trained," they are developed through time. The process of development must be continuous and highly individualized. Since teachers are real strategic leaders, but not everyone has what it takes to be a great leader no matter how hard they try.

References:

McDonald, L. (2021). Leadership Styles in Education. Graduate Programs for Educators.
Retrieved from: <https://www.graduateprogram.org/2021/12/leadership-styles-in-education/>

<https://www.acquisition-international.com/5-effective-leadership-styles-in-education/>

<https://www.integritycoaching.co.uk/blog/qualities/types-leadership-style/>