

THE ROLE OF A TEACHER AS A NEGOTIATOR AND MORAL GUIDE

by:

Bryan Behn D. Meriño

Teacher III, Mountain View Elementary School

Teachers are frequently regarded as the carriers of knowledge and abilities. They are responsible for instilling subject matter expertise in their students and molding their intellectual capacities. However, a teacher's role extends beyond these functional aspects. In today's environment, teachers also serve as negotiators and moral leaders for their students, assisting them in navigating the intricacies of life and work.

Teachers, as negotiators, are responsible for managing the diverse expectations and demands of numerous stakeholders. Students, parents, administrators, and regulatory bodies are among the stakeholders. Teachers must be proficient at balancing the demands of these stakeholders while remaining committed to the essential values of education.

One of the most significant manners in which teachers act as negotiators is by controlling their students' expectations. Students today generally come from various cultures and have distinct learning styles. Teachers need to modify their teaching approach according to the needs of each student while maintaining high academic rigor standards. Teacher's role as a negotiator is their ability to work with school heads and governing bodies. These stakeholders often have their own policies and procedures, which sometimes conflict with the needs of students and teachers. Teachers must be able to deal with these instances while still promoting the best interests of their students.

In addition to their role as negotiators, teachers also act as moral guides. They are responsible for helping their students develop a sense of moral and ethical responsibility

and for instilling in them the values essential for success in life and work. In the classroom, teachers play a greater role than tutors. It reaches beyond the classroom when a teacher serves as a moral leader in a student's life. It has been compared to the work of a sculptor, who molds a sculpture with finesse and precision. As a moral leader who gives direction to a student's hopes and aspirations, a teacher's position as a moral guide is important.

Another key aspect of the teacher's role as a moral guide is their ability to facilitate ethical discussions and debates. Teachers must create a secure and supportive environment where students can discuss ethical concerns and consider different points of view. This can help students develop more in-depth awareness of ethical concerns and the abilities required to handle these challenges in their personal and professional life. In other words, a teacher can also be a friend, a philosopher, and a leader. Gurukulas, (ancient Indian educational system where shishya ('students' or 'disciples') lived nearby or in the same house as the guru for a length of time to study from and be educated by their guru), have embraced this more than any other system.

Teaching is a complicated and comprehensive profession. While teaching content is an important part of their duties, teachers also act as negotiators and moral authorities, assisting their pupils in resolving conflicts and acquiring the knowledge and morals necessary to function well in society.

References:

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