

# CREATIVE LEADER TEACHERS AND THE FUTURE CITIZENS

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**ABSTRACT:-**Education should unlock the talents and energies of the students. The school which caters the need of today's society and world, which care for creativity and innovation, will survive and others may disappear. Students must be empowered to be able to withstand the global challenges of the 21st century. In the era of globalization and knowledge based societies, to foster creativity in students is the need of the school. Schools can create creative minds. Behind any great organization is a great leader and for students, we assume a teacher playing as a part of leader. Leaders have responsibility to create an environment which enables creativity, learning and efficiency. Teacher leadership is gaining importance for the improvement of the students, school and society as a whole. Creativity is becoming a popular topic in educational, economical, and political circles throughout the world.

**Key Words:** - Creativity, Education, Leader, Teacher.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Everyone is realizing that education is an important force to transform a developing nation into a developed nation. Education is a very powerful instrument for social change, and innovative teaching practice is the only way to enhance the quality of our education (A. Nicolaidis 2012). The world of students today is very different from the world of their parents and grandparents. The education system must update their levels for the 21st century skills rather than simply reinforcing old ways of teaching and learning (Resnick 2007). Assembly of the mark sheets and certificates should not be the ultimate goal of education. Our schools need more outstanding teachers who have: (1) content expertise, (2) excellent instructional skills, and (3) a proven record of getting results for students. Quality of teachers can be improved through Research and innovation.

## 2. CREATIVITY IS IN DEMAND

It is seen from many examples that schools give stress on memorizing rather than exploring creativity. This may be due to the pressure of syllabus completion, rat race of good academic results, stress of competitive exams etc. That means the school rewards only those talents which were taught to them. But, the most important goals of educational system must be to develop creative personalities who can adopt the changes of the modern society. Students must empower to be able to withstand the global challenges of the 21st century. Creativity and innovation are necessary in all academic disciplines and activities of education, not only in arts. It is said that enhancing creativity of the students is largely depends on home and educational environment (De Rose, 2016). To harmonize classroom environment which are rich in creative thinking and practice, first teachers perceptions of creativity should be explored by Systematic observations. Various studies indicate that effective teacher leadership involves a move away from top down, hierarchical modes of functioning and move toward shared decision, teamwork, and community building (Alvarado, 1997). Teacher's enthusiasm and creative behavior arouse same attitude in students through creative learning process.

## 3. ROLE OF TEACHERS AS A LEADER

Teacher is the central point of the classroom. Educational science is promoting the trend of teachers as leaders for the necessary improvements in student's learning. Teacher leaders have special awareness and their professional vision is said to be clear. The most different aspect of teacher leader is that, they continuously grasp the knowledge, have deep understanding and does experiments with new teaching approaches with openly sharing their experiences with other teachers. Definition of teacher leadership according to York Barr and Duke (2004), "to influence the colleagues, principals and other members of the communities for the sake of improvement and teaching learning practices, is the process of becoming a teacher leader". High expectations combined with intensive, caring support are the backbone of Leaders approach and it permeates everything they do and are committed to change the world, (cited in new leaders 2015, version 2.0). "To be creative one must first decide to generate new ideas, analyze these ideas, and sell the ideas" (Septenber 2003).

## 4. CREATIVE LEADERSHIP ROLES OF TEACHER

Atmosphere of fairness, confidentiality and security develops creativity. Behavior has influence on organizational climate and culture which is responsible for creativity (Amabile et.al, 1996). In other words leadership has impact on creativity. That means active leadership of teacher leaders develops creativity among students.

### 4.1. ROLE OF A TEACHER TO CONVEY CREATIVE KNOWLEDGE:-

Knowledge must be conveyed to the students in such a way that it is remembered and can be used in future also. Value based teaching to cope up with the unpredictable situations of life should be imparted to the students in creative manner. Teachers should optimize their creative teaching for the talent formation. According to Gerald Hither (a German neuroscientist) teachers can "act as individual talent development coaches".

### 4.2. ROLE OF A TEACHER AS A FACILITATOR:-

Help to think independently and reach towards the target, is the main role of a facilitator. A teacher can frame the work that students perform, but while doing this, teacher in a role of facilitator tries to develop them to learn independently.

#### 4.3. ROLE OF A TEACHER AS A MOTIVATOR:-

Torrence, 1979 has said that without motivation, an individual, who possess creative ability and skill cannot perform creative task well. Motivation is a process which makes a person, able to do certain things. It is an urge to take initiative for doing a work. Students, in absence of pressure to perform, can develop their talent, when teachers work as role models or mentors and improve the results of students acting as a motivator. Motivation is to generate a great quantity of ideas; to switch from one perspective to another; and to pack associations of ideas (Csikszentmihalyi).

#### 4.4. ROLE OF A TEACHER HAVING FLEXIBLE BEHAVIOR:-

Students should understand the point of view of another i.e., they should possess empathy towards other. Teacher listening the problems and questions of the students and using methods to solve them or teach according to the environment without following it rigidly, will create positive feeling among the students. Flexible behavior of the teacher leader thus creates confidence among the students and so increases their thinking capacity. Leaders organizing organizational culture have contribution to the creation of standards, compliance; create a vision of the future organization and its development path (Bass *et.al*, 1996; Sokol, 2014).

#### 4.5. ROLE OF THE TEACHER AS A GATEKEEPER OF STUDENT CREATIVITY (Csikszentmihalyi ,1999) :-

In broader society gatekeepers determine which ideas will alter culture by impacting or changing a specific field. According to Guildford (1966) creative leaders hold two crucial qualities: vision and imagination. Fred Fielder in 1962, examining the leadership and creativity relationship, assumed that creativity increases when the atmosphere and behavior of leader is good and decreases when these conditions are bad. Fairness, confidentiality and security in the atmosphere increases creativity. Researchers found that creativity can be result of imitation, which is carried by the leader.

#### 5. SOKOL(2015), HAS GIVEN SOME POINTS FOR LEADERS TO ENCOURAGE CREATIVITY:-



- 1 example should be set by doing personally
- 2 planning should be realistic and goals should be finalized
- 3 support should be practiced to the teams as well as individuals
- 4 communication and interaction should be good and positive
- 5 contribution of everyone should be appreciated
- 6 criticism must be constructive
- 7 trust and openness to new ideas must be there.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the leaders work is determined by the competencies he poses, like expert knowledge, ability to analyze competitors, using soft skills etc. Shaping the personality of the students, who are the valuable assets of future and our tomorrow citizen, is the most challenging task of a creative leader teacher. The qualitative up gradation, updating of students brings all over development of the country.

#### 6. WHAT MAKES A TEACHER EFFECTIVE LEADER?

6.1. By developing students learning environment by fostering collaborative culture with their peers. Following the rule of "many minds are better than one" works here

6.2. Cultivating community awareness in the school and classroom can be done by the teachers, giving chance to everyone to participate and explore their minds. Feeling respected and valued increases motivation of the students.

6.3. Use of new technologies, improved and novel practices of teaching, allowing students to think out of the box, assessing students according to their capabilities, etc makes a good teacher great.

6.4. Teacher leaders should continuously communicate with parents, guardians and peers.

6.5. The impact of teacher leader should be positive on student's academic performance.

#### 7. CONCLUSION

"The greatest honor of a teacher is crucifixion" Swami Rama Tirtha. Researchers have studied that, the teacher equates creativity with arts, and feel unprepared to foster or identify creativity in their classroom (Dianna, 2016). A day is not far when the priority of the Nation will shift towards learning of the teacher instead of concentrating on students grade. A learned teacher should always be open minded, and always ready to grasp new knowledge and update herself from time to time. This will directly upgrade and enhance the quality of the students by improving their grades and personalities. When principals, teachers, and even students lead, together, they can accomplish incredible things for each other, their school, and the larger community. "Teach to lead" initiative should be taken by the educational institutions for the development of their own self (New leader, 2015, Untapped, a policy roadmap for improving schools through shared leadership). Preparation, incubation, illumination and verification are the 4 stages of creative process (Wallace, 1978). The teacher leaders are expected to teach students creatively taking into mind these 4 processes because the only important factor, which can make a country to stand with others in the edge of globalization is non-other than creativity and innovation. While teaching, creative leader teacher shapes the future citizens empowering them to be able to withstand the global challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

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