



"Greater energy and greater passion is more extraordinary than greater genius."

— Lt. General Arjun Ray, (Retd.), PVSM, VSM

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Dear Friends,

The Creative Teacher

A creative teacher engages, evolves, and empowers herself and those whom she teaches. In a time when engaging a student is a huge challenge, creativity calls on cognitive and non-cognitive skills, curiosity, intuition, and doggedness. Creative solutions can be created or discovered, in a flash or over a period of decades.

There is the “Big C” creativity and everyday creativity. The former extends to culture-changing ideas, creations or techniques of doing something like creating more efficient software, inventing things or processes. Everyday creativity is to be found or can be taught to everyone who imagines, thinks and acts! It is creativity of the kind needed in impactful classrooms. A creative teacher can be followed, emulated, loved and even revered!

Creativity is recognizable in a teacher who demonstrates originality and imagination. She must be a risk-taker, and have willingness to admit she is wrong. Ability to explain ideas in detail, to be flexible, to elaborate ideas and change them, if need be, or enlarge and blend them with other’s ideas, openness to multiple solutions are character traits of the creative teacher.

Ideas, resources and skills may be continually improvised, modified and refined to appeal to the creative potential of students. Relevance, interest and experience play their part and must be modulated by the teacher. The focus of a teacher today should be generating interest in explorations

with ideas, words and presentation, with constant reference to academic requirements for cognitive, emotional and personal growth of her pupils.

In proceeding thus, each teacher instills courage, confidence and spirit in the class. For herself she opens up a never ending fountain of discovery and growth. As we live and move and have our being in our schools and classrooms, Daniel Pink's prophetic words come to mind, "Right brainers will rule the future". Creativity is the key to teaching and learning.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arjun Ray". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Lieutenant General Arjun Ray, PVSM, VSM (Retd.)

Chief Executive Officer

Indus Trust