



**"Greater energy and greater passion is more extraordinary than greater genius."
— Lt. General Arjun Ray, (Retd.), PVSM, VSM**

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Dear Friends,

Teachers must go beyond the call of duty

Some aspects of teaching will remain constant until the end of time. Teachers serve many roles and must balance them with the expectations and responsibilities of their specific jobs. From being an Instructional and Curriculum Specialist; from being a Learning Facilitator to a mentor, from an assessor to a data analyst. A teacher must, in essence, be a catalyst for change in herself, her students and the community at large.

Relationships between the teacher and the taught have changed, with newer educational objectives and the growing complexity of students' lives. There is proof that personalizing learning is vital to individual growth and contribution to civic and professional life in post school and college years. Indeed, the term "*In loco parentis*" has never been more relevant than it is today. Children need emotional support and positive understanding from their teachers; teachers need to be sensitive and aware, empathic and committed to helping each student in inclusive environments. Developing critical thinking skills in the 21st century is crucial. Any student worth her salt, should not and cannot merely "receive wisdom" from the teacher or text, without questioning it and trying to apply it. Life is extraordinarily complex and a teacher who encourages her students to contradict, question and suggest alternatives is the teacher who is building capacity in students to innovate and thrive in tomorrow's world.



Additionally, a teacher is responsible for helping to support the school's goals, for translating its Vision and Mission into active, everyday living and interaction and curriculum development. Aside from these responsibilities, a teacher may decide to live out that leadership into a voluntary role in the school, sitting on committees, initiating community projects, fighting for changes in the school and standing up for the needs or rights of one student or even many. Then, there is the delightful contribution of talent and co-curricular interests. Mentoring is an increasingly important role/responsibility as a teacher grows in experience and commitment to her vocation.

Teachers can never stop learning. Improvements in instructional strategies and subject content are always happening. This involves staying current on new issues and developments in the field. Professional development in the 21st century will involve staying abreast of new research and also attending seminars and trainings on new developments in the profession.

Teachers must be equipped to prepare students for life in the 21st century. The teacher herself must learn from the past, live in the present, and prepare for the future with positivity and optimism.

With warm regards,

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Chief Executive Officer
Indus Trust