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BETTER RESULTS = ? BETTER EDUCATION ?

Is the question that every student, parent and school must ask itself as they race for the marks and grades while forgetting the core of education, felt panelists and eminent education experts at the XSEED Conference on the 'School of Tomorrow' in Mumbai. By Kunal Chonkar

Vishwanath Sahani / ADC



« Craig Johnson, Superintendent of The American School of Mumbai, addressing the gathering.

When children are young, they tend to be at the height of their creative powers. Creativity is the most important ingredient in innovation. Fostering and maintaining children's creativity is more important now than it ever was. In their future, the ability to think and work in innovative ways may be the passport to a better life. The problem India is facing is that the current education model inadvertently rewards uniformity of thought. The unintended consequence of teaching children that every problem has only one correct answer, is that it tends to squelch the creative impulses necessary for innovation.

As India steps into the fast lanes of globalization, quality education is a right and must of every child in the nation, expressed eminent speakers and panelist in the city yesterday.

They were addressing the crowd at the third edition of the iDiscover School of Tomorrow conference with its theme of providing path-breaking solutions for quality teaching and learning.

The key note of the conference was conveyed by Craig Johnson, Superintendent - The American School of Mumbai who said, "Quality education is something that everyone wants their kids to have. We cannot blame the teachers and system anymore; the

entire community must act and try to shape for better schooling with innovative techniques."

Adding further, Johnson said that, teachers must possess three principles of autonomy, mastery and purpose to fuel the students and provoke new ways of education.

Eminent personalities like Patrick Brilians (Founder Member, Tridha Special Alternate School), Safeena Husain (Founder and CEO, Educate Girls), Shaali Sathya (Writer, Theatre and Education Consultant) and Kritika Srinivas (Editor, ParentEdge) shared their visions and experiences on the theme of the conference 'Education beyond Boundaries'.

Srinivas, during the panel discussion, stated, "Better results do not translate for better education. The school management needs to provide space for the education staff to breathe their brains and come up with new techniques to improve schooling. Most of India cannot afford the innovative techniques, thus the cost of the new steps also needs to be accounted and considered before implementing."

The conference provided unique podium for all participants from the educational sector with an objective to build case for improving teaching learning

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