

M4 chooses to make human persons the centre

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To make human persons the centre

To make human persons the centre of every educational programme, in order to foster their distinctiveness and their capacity for relationship with others against the spread of the throwaway culture.



Grade M4 at Gonzaga International school chooses to make human persons the centre. In the months leading up to the Jesuit Education Network's audience with the pope, M4 students have dedicated their time to studying the Global Compact on Education as set forth by Pope Francis. From the '7 Commitments', they have chosen the first one as their object of inquiry and investigation. Reflecting on what it means to centre the individual in matters of education, students share their thoughts, personal opinions, and desires for what this might look like in the future.

I found this point very interesting. It talks about the fact that in the last decades the change and evolution, mainly technological, has been more rapid than ever before. Pope Francis thinks that educational programmes have to adapt and create a new humanism by putting their students at the center so that young students can form their own identity, build relationships and not be broken by this rapid change or become part of the throwaway culture. I think that schools, to be able to help young people to create their own identity and develop as young adults, should focus on creating a support system that will help adolescents when they have problems that regard, for example, mental health or socializing. Smaller classes, where the teacher can dedicate more time to students, make a more interactive learning possible that is not only more efficient, but also more interesting than frontal teaching where the teacher explains without interacting with the students. I also think that the rapid change has brought new things such as the amount of options students have nowadays: career, university, amount of news and information that is not always true, social media, products. This can be very positive, but can also overwhelm students and cause distress or loss of hope. He also mentions that young people should be able to form relationships. I think that the recent developments in social media might appear to make it easier to form relationships, but in reality, for many people it has made them isolated and disappointed in themselves for not achieving the unrealistic and glorified standards often shown on social media. It has definitely made many young people more fragile and prone to mental health issues and problems like bullying have worsened. That's why I think that schools should focus on involving students to help them in these situations but also prevent them from happening.

I am an individual, everyone that surrounds me is an individual. Each one of us is unique and distinctive. If we were all the same the world would not be as beautiful and intercultural as it is. If we don't have our peculiarities we're plain and simple. The things that we enjoy

personally without influences from other people are the real things that make us happy. If we don't like the same thing as our friends it should not be a problem. If we are different from other people, we are not strange or out of context, we're special with only different perspectives and ideas of how to live. Having a proper personality is something really hard to achieve these days. At the start of my adolescence I couldn't really find myself and what's inside of me. With time even though I overcame many obstacles, I think I've found what are the real things that make me happy and how my own personality and my own ideas made me a better person. The people that surrounded me have contributed to my personality and my being. The most important are my parents, they've always believed and supported me in everything I did. They make me understand when something is not right to do or vice versa and try to teach me how to act and react within different situations. Being yourself is also something key in our education and how we cope with it, it is something that opens our mind to achieve personal goals and be the best version of ourselves despite it all.

Education can help everyone understand how the world works. If humans were at the center of education, then people would be able to communicate with each other across countries. Making humans the center of education could help everyone in their studies as more people could share their ideas. If humans were at the center of education, then people could develop new skills and share them with other people including decision making, problem solving and critical thinking. This can help many people in their personal life. Making humans the center of education could also open the mind of a lot of people as they would share their thoughts. People's mental states would be better because it would appear more obvious the reason that people are sharing knowledge and what value it can provide to others. It could improve the ability of making rational and informed decisions. If humans were at the center of education, then new methods could be developed. These methods, like new and easier ways of doing something, would improve the quality of education. If we can all communicate in the same way with different ideas could make education easier and straightforward.

In my opinion humans should be in the center of everything but as a group or a community. It will be a good opportunity to share everyone's ideas and consider the facts before coming to a final solution. People should be in the center of education because education is the system where all the people gain knowledge. Human beings should be in the center of education because people are the organisms who can consider and observe the facts and then present it to the world. Persons should be in the center of education because then they can share their ideas without just studying a textbook. If students had to study the same facts without even knowing it would be only memorizing the notes in the books. The students would not have a chance to learn on their own. This will result in all of us believing in the same theories without questioning it. People should have equal rights individually because all the people should have a chance to self think about the questions and theories. We don't have to just believe in someone's idea. We can gather all the information from everyone and make a solution. Individuals should always get a chance to change a wrong theory into the right theory because most things evolve over time and new technologies come so people can reconsider the facts of a theory. The results could be different so we could find the correct information by using the new technologies.

I think that centering human persons in education is important to help nurture individualism and motivate people to learn. Everyone has different ways that help them learn best and if you are not taught in an engaging way that makes you eager to learn, you can lose all aspirations and want of knowledge, which makes you more incapable in the world. I believe that centering persons and their interests in this way will help further ambitions and better their experiences and outlook in life. Your unique experiences make you who you are as an individual, so having a good experience and relationship with education really can make you a better person and help you learn how to become who you want to be.

How do we valorize the individual? I think that the individual can be valued by giving them the proper attention, considering the other, and providing him the tools needed to help him. An individual is someone or something that is living who has feelings and thoughts. We need individual perspectives and education to help us build a more stable and diverse society, so as to make each individual feel like themselves. Taking each individual into consideration no matter what can help them understand their emotional state. Emotion is an essential part of education. We can divide emotions into four categories: sadness, fear, anger and the most important, happiness. I believe that the only positive emotion is happiness. Someone who is not happy can be angry, afraid and sad which all are negative feelings, which can negatively affect your everyday life. There are some ways to help someone who is not happy and this are:

1. ATTENTION which can include listening
2. ACCEPTION making the individual feel included and helped
3. DON'T JUDGE because it can affect the self esteem of the individual
4. ENCOURAGE which can boost their confidence

An individual is a single person that has their own talent and perspectives. Everyone is different in their own way and is unique as an individual. When these different thoughts and perspectives come together you can make the best out of it. In education, each and every single student must work on themselves so they can reach their full potential. This, in turn, can allow them to give back to the community, thus contributing and building mature relationships to create a welcoming and accepting environment.