

Interactive Session
on
“CREATING INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS”

June 17, 2021

Another Talk Session was held under the ‘Interactive Session’ which was presided over by Ms. Anita Sharma, Principal S D Public, Pitampura on the topic:

“CREATING INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS”

With the help of an informative power point presentation, Ms. Anita Sharma apprised the school leaders how by celebrating the differences we can create inclusive schools and make learning a joyful experience for our students.

- ❖ She initiated the session by asking other school leaders about their views on inclusive schools and all the school leaders shared their opinion and understanding about inclusive schools.
- ❖ She shared that the Stakeholders together, be it the School Management and Administration, School faculty or staff, students and parents along with the school policies, school culture and school practices should take care of inclusion in the schools from all dimensions.
- ❖ She advocated that our National Education Policy also says that education is the single greatest tool for achieving social justice and equality.

- ❖ She also discussed about celebrating differences through creating a culture by putting welcoming words in the regional languages as we do have students from various cultures and backgrounds in our classes. This way they will mingle well with each other, will know more about how diverse our country is and how vibrant our society is.
- ❖ She advised all the school leaders to ensure that they are providing equal opportunities of participation, learning and expression to their students and staff or even to the support staff.
- ❖ She further shared how by implementing certain important practices in the schools we can bring positive results. The practices she shared are being followed in her school were—
Adopt a Child Program, School Enterprise Program, Inclusive Unit of School- UTSAH, Global Citizenship Education and Faculty Meetings .
- ❖ She further said that teachers also should not be left behind in the process of progress. By following the Faculty Meetings concept in her school she shared how the teachers improved, up skilled and upgraded their knowledge and come forward to take further responsibilities.
- ❖ She talked about the School Enterprise program where students got an opportunity to start a small business of recycling paper. By using Quelling technique they made beautiful rakhis, key rings and jewellery etc. This program has helped them to reap monetary benefits also. Later parents and students from nearby NGOs were also taught the Quelling technique by the students of her school.

- ❖ She further apprised everyone that a proper Inclusive Unit is being run in her school which has students with multiple disabilities. The program is very successful in the school because proper training has been given to everyone right from the guards, support staff, administrative staff, teaching faculty and even to the parents. Everyone in her school knows the needs of every individual child and how to cater that need. She shared that this program has made the school students and teachers very sensitive and compassionate towards these special children.
- ❖ She also shared that her school has prepared a special group of blind students who perform rhythmic yoga and it is the first team of special children in Asia.

Ms. Archana Narain, Secretary FPS invited all the school leaders to share how they are practicing inclusiveness in their respective schools.

- ❖ Dr. Mukta Mishra shared that in her school too the similar kind of projects are running and their names are – ‘Foster Mother’ and ‘Parent Acknowledgement Award’. She further shared how this initiative has brought change in the eco system of the school.
- ❖ Ms. Shakuntla Jaiman shared that in her school also so many programs based on inclusiveness are running. She told that right from the inception of her school, support staff like Gardener, Mess workers, or Safai karchari’s children are studying along with the other students and this way they have been able to remove the shackles of their parents status. Now those students

and working in big MNCs which is a great achievement of this program.

- ❖ Mr. Sanjay Bhartiya, Patron FPS also shared that such programs are running in his school too. He also congratulated Ms. Anupma Bhardwaj, Chairperson for initiating this endeavour which is turning out to be very beneficial for all the members.
- ❖ Ms. Rashmi Malik, Principal Salwan Public School, shared that two programs on Inclusiveness are running in her school- 'Ambassador of Good Will' 'Principal's Connect'.
- ❖ Mr. Rohit Bajaj also shared that in his school too similar kind of programs are running. He further apprised everyone that on every floor of his school there is a Post Box wherein students can write and put their issues and the same are discussed and addressed along with the school counselor.
- ❖ Ms. Anupma Bhardwaj, Chairperson summed up the session by extending her heartiest congratulations to Ms. Anita Sharma for coming up with such an important topic. She advised that thinking of inclusiveness is the need of the hour. We must first visualize it from the heart but to make it happen we need to be very much passionate about it. She also said that we all need to be patient. So with a heart filled with passion and compassion, with unconditional love and with a lot of patience we can bring significant change in the lives of these special children.

All the school leaders congratulated and appreciated Ms. Anita Sharma for sharing thought provoking ideas and the efforts taken by her school to make it an inclusive school. Ms.

Archana Narain, Secretary extended a Vote of Thanks with a promise of another session by Ms. Savita Arora.