



PRESS RELEASE

Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

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FOR IMMEDIATE REPORTING

New model for teachers' professional development launched

1. The Teacher Growth Model (TGM), aimed at helping teachers to develop holistically in the 21st century, was launched today by Mr Heng Swee Keat, Minister for Education at the 6th Teachers' Conference organised by the Academy of Singapore Teachers (AST), Ministry of Education (MOE).

2. The TGM is a professional development model which encourages Singapore teachers to engage in continual learning and become student-centric professionals who take ownership of their growth. The TGM also recognise that teachers need to be equipped with the relevant knowledge and skills so that they are better able to develop students holistically. The model was developed by the AST in consultation with educators of diverse profiles from across the ministry coming together to envision the learning needs of the 21st century Singapore teacher. Please see the TGM factsheet for details.

3. The growth and personal well-being of teachers are essential to their professional development, which in turn has an impact on the quality of teaching and learning. Like their students, teachers have diverse learning needs. The TGM encourages teachers to pursue their development through multiple modes of learning, including going for training, mentoring, research-based practice, networked and experiential learning. MOE is committed to investing in the professional growth of teachers, and will continue to support teachers as they engage in continual learning throughout their career.

4. Mr Heng Swee Keat, Minister for Education, said, "By encouraging teachers to learn together, the Teacher Growth Model will promote greater synergy and coherence across different professional departments and schools."

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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

About the Teachers' Conference 2012

Started in 2001, the Teachers' Conference is a biennial event for the teaching fraternity. It aims to inspire teachers to reflect on their teaching methods and to broaden their repertoire of pedagogical skills through professional sharing and the exchange of ideas. This biennial event is now into its sixth run. The theme for this year's conference is "Enriching Minds, Engaging Hearts".

The twin thrusts of "Quality Teaching, Quality Learning", and "Cultivating Within, Leading Beyond", speak about engaged learning to enrich the minds of students and teacher leadership. The conference features a total of 72 concurrent sessions presented by teachers who are sharing their innovative ideas and experiences with their fellow educators in the teaching fraternity. Other highlights of the Conference include the three keynote addresses by Professor Marilyn Cochran-Smith, Dr. Ann Lieberman, and Professor Elizabeth Birr Moje, all of whom are academics reputed in the field of education. It also comprises teacher forums chaired by Principal Master Teachers with a panel of overseas and local education experts. Over 2000 participants have signed up for the conference this year.

About the Academy of Singapore Teachers

The Academy of Singapore Teachers was set up in September 2010. It looks into the development of a teaching fraternity that is characterised by a shared ethos, strong pedagogical expertise and ownership of professional development. This is done through providing professional development opportunities for in-service Education Officers, Executive and Administrative Staff and Allied Educators.

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Fact Sheet

The Teacher Growth Model

1. The Teacher Growth Model (TGM) is a professional development model aimed at encouraging teachers to engage in continual learning, and take ownership of their professional growth and personal well-being.

Five Desired Outcomes of the 21st century Singapore Teacher

2. To reflect the multi-faceted nature of their work, the TGM presents a holistic portrait of the 21st century Singapore teacher with the following five desired outcomes:
 - The Ethical Educator
 - The Competent Professional
 - The Collaborative Learner
 - The Transformational Leader and
 - The Community Builder

The TGM Learning Continuum

3. The design of the TGM recognises teachers as professionals who engage in continual learning and growth. The TGM Learning Continuum recommends the learning areas that would facilitate their professional growth in the five desired outcomes, according to the stages in their career. Using the TGM Learning Continuum, teachers will have the flexibility and autonomy to plan their learning relevant to their professional needs and interest. Their learning will be aligned to the knowledge and skills needed to nurture students in 21st century competencies.

Multiple Modes of Learning

4. Like their students, teachers in the 21st century have diverse learning needs. The TGM encourages teachers to pursue professional development through multiple modes of learning. These include face-to-face and infocomm-technology based courses, conferences, mentoring and research-based practice, networked learning, reflective practice, and experiential learning. Every teacher has the opportunity to grow through various learning modes and platforms.

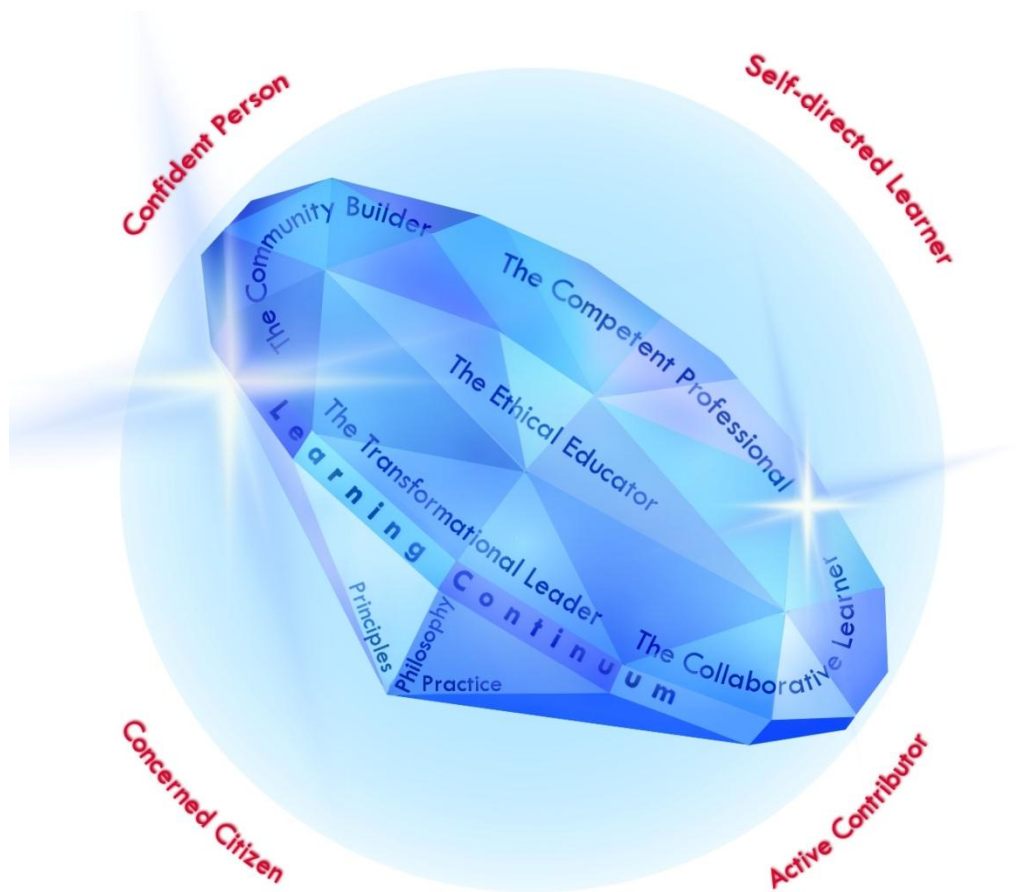


Diagram 1: The Teacher Growth Model

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