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INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ADMINISTRATORS IN BANGKOK METROPOLITAN ADMINISTRATION, NETWORK GROUP 36, LAT KRABANG DISTRICT OFFICE

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Abstract

Innovative leadership refers to a leader's ability to inspire, motivate, and guide individuals or organizations to conceive, create, and implement new innovations to solve problems, improve work processes, and create positive change. It's not merely about adopting innovations, but about fostering an organizational culture that supports creativity, experimentation, and learning from mistakes. Innovative leaders emphasize creating new things, adapting to rapidly changing environments, and building organizational sustainability. Innovative leadership is more than just implementing innovations; it's about building an organizational culture and inspiring everyone to participate in creating new things, enabling the organization to thrive sustainably in a rapidly changing world. This is particularly relevant for educational leaders, whose innovative leadership enables educational institutions to develop new and beneficial innovations in terms of thought, administration, teaching methods, and educational assessment. These innovations can be used to improve the quality of education based on change. Educational leaders are directly involved in creating, developing, and driving change within their institutions, particularly by leveraging innovative leadership to align the organization with current circumstances and the modern era.

Keywords: Innovative leadership, Educational Institution Administrators

Innovation

The revised Master Plan under the National Strategy (2023-2037) has emphasized the development of learning to enhance the quality of Thai people's education to international standards. It aims to equip individuals with 21st century skills, enabling them to solve problems, adapt, communicate, and collaborate effectively. Furthermore, it seeks to foster a lifelong learning attitude, develop individuals to their full potential based on their multiple intelligences, and design a new learning system focusing on learner-centered approaches, changing the role of teachers, improving educational management, and developing lifelong learning systems. The plan also emphasizes the development of a digital platform to support learning, the creation of a world-class education system, the promotion of the development of Thai people's multiple intelligences to their full potential, the empowerment of the gifted to pursue careers, and the development of mechanisms for the collaboration of gifted individuals from various disciplines to bring together leading researchers and technologists to develop innovative research to address national development challenges and strengthen the country's capabilities.

The revised 20-Year Bangkok Development Plan (2018-2037) mentions sub-strategy 6.2: Bangkok as a world-class tourist destination. This sub-strategy merges the previous sub-strategies of developing Bangkok as a global tourism hub and a knowledge-based business

center. It focuses on adapting to changing tourism trends, leveraging technology to enhance safety and service quality, creating facilities for all tourist groups including the disabled and elderly, promoting tourism creatively, and developing the capacity of Bangkok's tourism workforce.

Today, the world is experiencing rapid advancements, leading to significant changes that impact people and society on a large scale. Technology is the most influential factor driving these changes, transforming the lifestyles of people in the 21st century. Globalization has created a borderless world and interconnectedness, while the digital age and information technology have profoundly impacted our lives. As organizations face these changes, they must adapt, adjust their strategies, and address emerging challenges. Innovation and problem-solving are closely linked; innovation arises from the effort to improve work processes and lifestyles (Cheidongs Ngoknawang, 2024).

The synthesis of the meaning of innovation is the process of inventing or adopting new things in ways that can benefit society or organizations, be it in technology, management, services, or products. It emphasizes creating added value or improving existing issues, or introducing new methods to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in work. In a societal context, the use of innovation typically aims to enhance the quality of life of people or to promote progress in various fields, often driven by the need to solve problems or improve existing conditions.

Innovative leadership

Innovation has traveled and grown alongside the development and changes of global society. From agricultural innovations 8,500 years ago, it transitioned into inventions based on continuous scientific advancements. The 1980s and 1990s witnessed significant social, economic, and cultural changes, including industrial production, free-market economies, multinational corporations, and the emergence of new market economies in Eastern Europe. The collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the economic and social challenges faced by developing countries, coupled with rapid global population growth, characterized this era (Diamond, 1997).

From these changes, an era of confusion and uncertainty has emerged, driving a paradigm shift (Kuhn, 1962). The view of humans as machines, the belief in a competitive struggle for survival, and the notion of unlimited material progress through economic and technological growth are being challenged and revised. Instead, there's a growing emphasis on interdependence and interconnectedness, creating a borderless world and ushering in one of history's greatest eras of change: globalization. The rapid development of information technology and a profound appreciation for innovation have compelled nations to adapt and enhance their institutional capacities.

As we transition from crisis to a fragile 21st century, there's a pressing need to ensure that all people, young and old, receive a quality education and are prepared for the future. Thailand's national education strategy emphasizes developing the potential, abilities, and quality of its population across all ages. To achieve this, educational institutions are redesigning learning systems, transforming the role of teachers, and promoting lifelong learning. The goal is to cultivate a skilled workforce of innovators, entrepreneurs, and adaptable individuals who can thrive in the 21st century.

Synthesizing the characteristics of innovative leadership, we find that it involves the ability to introduce new ideas, practices, or methods to develop an organization or team. The focus is on creating valuable and practical innovations in processes, products, or services to address current challenges and changes. Innovative leadership also entails fostering a culture that encourages out-of-the-box thinking, risk-taking, and adaptability. It involves creating an

environment that is open to feedback and learning from failures, with the ultimate goal of achieving long-term success.

Educational Institution Administrators

Charunee Kaoeuen (2016), a manager is an individual responsible for ensuring that tasks assigned by shareholders or owners are completed successfully and in accordance with the organization's objectives.

Khuanchonok Tonanak (2017) defines managers as professional personnel responsible for the administration of educational institutions, whether public or private, and their actions significantly influence an organization's success or failure.

Ravirach Songwonwan (2017) views managers as service providers and operators who lead organizations towards their stated objectives.

Jujiravan Janpla (2019) emphasizes the critical role of managers in the success or failure of organizations, particularly private ones.

Piyaporn Pholsena (2022) defines managers as professionals responsible for the administration of educational institutions or organizations, ensuring their survival and the successful completion of assigned tasks.

Synthesizing these definitions, a manager can be defined as a professional who plays a crucial role in an organization's success or failure. They are responsible for managing assigned tasks and leading their teams towards achieving organizational goals. Managers utilize their knowledge and skills to motivate and guide their employees.

Summarize

To achieve the essential objectives of a school, it requires proactive and effective leadership. The synthesis of innovative characteristics in educators has resulted in five key attributes of an innovator: networking, experimentation, creative thinking, leadership skills, and observation skills. These skills can be applied to four areas of educational management: instructional management, curriculum development, development of innovative media and learning resources, and assessment of learning outcomes. This framework can be used to develop the competencies of educational innovators, who can apply new knowledge, ideas, methods, or tools to improve the quality of education. By introducing new ideas or behaviors into the classroom, such as new curricula, teaching methods, learning materials, or educational technologies, educators can foster innovation. (Herkema, 2003; OECD, 2011)

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