

Life is an accumulation of experiences, let us be your leader

## Do schools remain the worlds of teachers in which children are temporary guests?

I have attempted to define what my aims of education are, as well as, open dialogue with colleagues, the students I have taught, and community members to develop a greater appreciation and broader perspective on the purpose of schools. More importantly, I understand how individuals play a moral and political role through the decisions they make.

[The Inner World of Children](#) written by Cullingford has made me realize, “children as well as teachers do their best in often difficult circumstances. They are adaptable and cheerful even about some of the difficulties that schools present. But the question remains whether the circumstances are the most appropriate for children’s learning and development.” I have begun to understand that there is no beginning and no end, to the meaning of experience, and leading a good and worthwhile life. Human existence, by nature, requires us to be organized and make meaning of life. We always learn, whether we intend to or not. The influence of teachers and the experience of school become embedded in the community rather than apart from it.



Educators too often get caught up in the tensions of insufficient resources and requirements to achieve unattainable results. In actuality, we need to be reinforcing the passion of the young, giving them a spirit of adventure, introducing them to self-development and cooperation in the outdoors, by giving them meaningful opportunities to serve as helpful citizens within the community and make a difference in their lives and the lives of others. The fundamental duty of schools, teachers, and administrators should be to attempt to create a healthy environment in which young people can learn habits in fitness, skill and care, self-discipline, initiative, imagination, and compassion. Altogether, an aim of education is important in determining an educator’s reason for being. It is from this being that lives are influenced in the classroom.



## Challenges in Education

Some of the challenges that we currently face as teachers are the demands to develop students’ standardized tests scores, producing them into mechanical robots. We do not spend enough time developing critical thinking, and then we wonder why students act and perform more like monkeys rather than deciphering humans. Teachers demand behaviour as an integral part of learning. This understanding shows students

how they present themselves is as important as what they present, that knowledge is more than a series of learned facts. Rarely do we include students in our dialogue of curriculum and ask how school makes sense to the world as they know it. We need to consistently challenge the system to enhance the lives of others through various teaching perspectives. Schooling in the formal sense is a repetitive pattern. The evolution of change is seldom immediate. I repeat that school is the home of teachers. Changes and renovations must take place, but students remain as guests in the midst of construction.

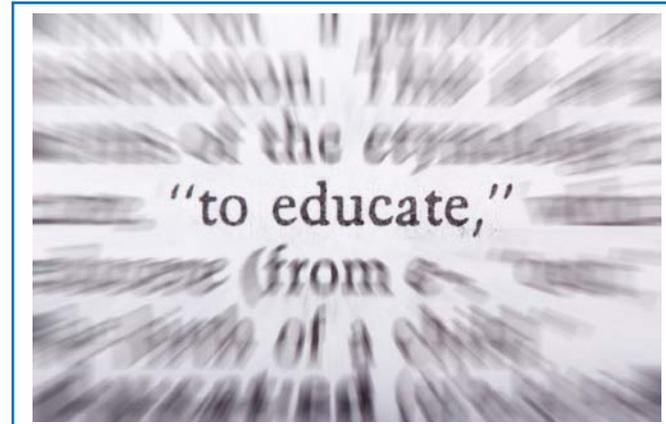
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## Ideas to Improve the Quality of Education

To improve the quality of education, we must look at the community in which we educate. We must make connections with other people and remain in discussion and continual dialogue. An example of insightful dialogue involved my interview with a man who had completed high school, but did not have the opportunity to attend post-secondary schooling. He gave me insight into what a first-rate teacher exhibited to him. A high level of competency with curriculum and world knowledge allowing students to become well-rounded was his definition of an educated person.

Doesn't the way to improve education involve questioning what one's education has been? The only way to improve the quality of education is to continually look for ways in which we can enhance the students' experiences within the teacher's world of school.

Leading a worthwhile life has a different meaning for everyone. As teachers influence our thinking in schools, students more commonly try to make meaning and connections with the world outside. Schooling is a snapshot of what the world has to offer. Education, on the other hand, is what satisfies a thirst for learning in all capacities building character education. Although, the ideal qualities of each individual are difficult to evaluate, we do guide and shape the young.



## New Website

[Take Action Educational Solutions Limited](http://www.takeactionsolutions.ca) will be featuring various programs and events in future issues. Be sure to continually look to our site for future announcements.

To inquire about specific programs, please email: [info@takeactionsolutions.ca](mailto:info@takeactionsolutions.ca)

