



## **Report of GPSC conference**

XVIII Annual Conference of Gurgaon Progressive School Council was successfully conducted on 8th February, 2020 at The Lemon Tree Hotel, Sector 60, Gurugram. In this congregation of renowned scholars and experienced educators and professionals from diverse fields discussed the significance and need of Core Competencies for 21st Century.

The conference commenced with the welcome of the Chief Guest Shri Jitender Yadav, IAS, Administrator, HSVP Gurugram and the Guest of Honour Prof. M.M. Pant followed by the lighting of the lamp by the founder members – Ms. Asha Sharma, Ms. Suman Gulati Mr. P.K. Jain, Ms. Anita Makkar and Dr. Indu Khetrapal. The students of Blue Bells Public School, Gurugram, won the applause for their mesmerizing dance performance.

Ms. Aparna Erry, Chairperson GPSC and Principal of D.A.V. Public School, Sec-14 presented the annual report and elaborated the activities of the council especially Inter-School competitions conducted in the session 2019-20 to promote opportunities for the students to explore the new horizons and develop creativity and confidence as well. Through positive promotional efforts, the Council has helped schools come together and form an interactive and sharing relationship.

The Chief Guest, Shri Jitendra Yadav, IAS, Municipal Corporation, in his address appreciated the efforts and innovative initiatives taken by the school heads and educators of Gurgaon. He also added that education can be purposeful if it creates critical thinkers and responsible citizens. Prof. M.M. Pant, while speaking to the audience emphasised the need of creating autonomous learners who can be co-explorers in the educational process with their teachers and mentors.

First session of this conference started with a discussion on Creative Thinking: Thinking Out of The Box and. Ms. Archana Sagar was the Moderator in this session. Shri Manish Jain, Associate Teaching Professor and Principal Coordinator at Centre for Creative Learning at IIT Gandhinagar was the Resource Person. He held the session in a very interesting and interactive manner. His demonstration of the tools and aids used in the teaching of subjects caught everybody's attention. He reiterated the fact that experiential learning leads to the development of the minds and thinking of the children in a very effective manner.

The panel discussion in session 2 was on Critical Thinking: Greatness Awaits. It had the participation of four renowned panelists- Ms. Garima Babbar, Mr. Siddharth Jaitley, Shri Sunil Bajaj and Mr. Rajiv Khurana. Ms. Sandeepa Rai was the Moderator in this session. All the panelists opined that the educators, parents and teachers need to work together to formulate the creative and critical thinking culture in the schools.

Post lunch session was on the important highlight of the conference i.e. Collaboration: Together Moving Ahead. Dr. Anshu Arora was the Moderator. This session had the participation of Shri Amod Kant, Maj. Atul Dev, Shri Rakshit Tandon, Ms. Meenakshi Oberoi and Mr. Rangnath Thota.

The major highlight of the next session was Communication Skills: Connection before Correction. The panelists who joined in this discussion were Shri Ashish Sehgal, Dr. Tripti Singh, Ms. Anupama Jain and Ms. Fouzia Dastango. Ms. Rashmi Malik was the moderator.

Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Joint Secretary, Chief Controller, Examinations, CBSE graced the valedictory function as the Chief Guest. He was accorded a hearty welcome by the founder members. In his informative and motivational talk, he invited the schools to come forward in creating the creative and conducive learning environment which sharpens the critical thinking of the 21st century learners

Ms. Arti Chopra, Secretary, GPSC and Principal of Amity International School, Sec-46, in her summing up report, threw light on the events of the conference and appreciated the enthusiastic participation of Gurgaon schools.

Arti Chopra  
Secretary GPSC