



Report

19TH GPSC Annual Conference

23 January 2021

The 19th Gurgaon Progressive Schools Council annual conference on *Changing Landscapes- Futuristic Pathways for Education* was the latest milestone in a series of GPSC conferences which began as a combined effort of eminent stakeholders of education. Due to the Covid pandemic, this year the conference was held virtually on Zoom platform on Saturday, 23 January 2020 from 9.30 am to 5 pm.

The programme commenced with the virtual lamp lighting ceremony and invoking the blessings of Goddess Saraswati. The Chief Guest for the inaugural session, Shri Manoj Ahuja, IAS, Chairman CBSE graced the occasion with his presence and mesmerizing words of wisdom during his talk on National Education Policy 2020. Mr. Ahuja focused on remedial attention so as to breach the gap between child and the curriculum. After the Chief Guest's speech, unveiling ceremony of the GPSC souvenir took place. Ms Aparna Erry, Chairperson GPSC, Principal, DAV Public School, Sector 14, Gurugram presented the Annual Report and talked about the challenges in the field of education in 21st century. Thereafter, Mr. P.K. Jain talked about how this 19th GPSC conference holds a special value as all were meeting virtually during this tough time of pandemic. Mr. Jain emphasized upon the importance of augmented and virtual reality in the future, nurturing talent and focusing on education systematically. The symphonic Motivational Medley prepared by DPS, Sector 45 Gurgaon included all the principals and tuned and geared up everyone for the conference. The inspirational and golden words of Dr. Harish Chaudhary, Assistant Professor, IIT Delhi, inclined the path of the conference to one of its multifaceted aims, posited the idea of Blended Learning in the future.

The whole conference comprised of five sessions and the first session initiated with Professor M.M. Pant's, Law Practitioner, stimulating speech highlighting the importance of Bloom's taxonomy and how the first three levels of the Bloom's taxonomy can be replaced by Artificial

Intelligence. The second session commenced after the tea break on the topic Redefining Assessment- Assessing skills in a Changing Landscape. The duologue was in the form of a conversational dialogue between Dr. Ameeta Mulla Wattal, Principal of Spring Dales School, Pusa Road & Kirti Nagar and Ms. Aditi Misra, Director Principal, DPS, Sector 45, Gurgaon. Dr. Wattal, with her esteemed eloquence, propounded that there should be growth in learning, as assessment should not drive learning, it should facilitate it. The session three panel discussion engaged Dr. Deepak Ahuja, Sr. Consultant New born and Child specialist, Dr. N. Madhuri Parti, Director Academics, Aravali Foundation and Dr. Indu Kaura, Educational Consultant & Counsellor Psychologist, moderated by Dr. Anshu Arora, Principal Amity International School, Sector 43, Gurgaon on the topic Social and Emotional Learning- Creating Supportive Learning Environment for all. The fourth session, after lunch break, plunged into talks on Beyond Covid 19- Embracing the new normal. The new definition of SMS (Sanitize, Mask, Social Distancing) given by the moderator Ms. Charu Maini, Principal, DAV Public School, Sector 49, Gurgaon, notably apprised everyone about the helm of affairs we are at this stage of turmoil. The panelists included Dr. Roma Kumar, Senior Consultant Psychologist, Dr. Rakesh Gupta, Physician, Apollo Hospital, Dr. Arvind Kumar, Chairman, Institute of Chest Surgery, Medanta. The culminating session moderated by Ms. Anita Makkar, Principal, HDFC School, delved deep into National Education Policy 2020- the way forward 2025. The panelists included Dr. Rishi Goel, Director, SCERT, Dr. Ashok Pandey, Director, Ahlcon Group of Schools and Mrs. Malini Narain, Chairperson NPSC and Principal, Army Public School, Shankar Vihar. Mrs. Narain pondered upon the thought that awareness level is the real game changer. Every child can succeed; it's just not on the same day and in the same way. The grand valedictory ceremony turned into a grandiose moment by an opulent and awe-inspiring speech by Ms. Arti Chopra, Secretary GPSC and Principal- Amity International School, Sector 46, Gurgaon. Ms. Chopra summed up the whole conference in a precise and prudent manner which was appreciated by one and all. Shri Prashant Panwar, IAS, ADC Gurgaon graced the occasion with his presence and acknowledged and lauded the efforts of GPSC fraternity. The Dance video by Bluebells Schools Sector 4 & 10 Gurgaon, Song video by Manav Rachna International School, Sector 46, Gurgaon and amalgamation of Art Integration presentation by DAV Sector 49, Gurgaon was the exquisite icing on the cake.