



ASIAN INTELLECT MAGAZINE

Educates - Informs - Entertains

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Undoubtedly, digital media is the most popular source of information and entertainment nowadays. However, it is not necessarily the best and most trusted source. Though it now seems old-fashioned and outdated, print media like newspapers and magazines are still the most trusted and most credible origins of facts and information. People have confidence that what they read in print media is accurate and reliable. Advertisements in print media are also deemed to be more truthful and honest and more serious too. Studies showed that advertisement recall is higher with print, and more likely to drive action than its digital media counterpart.

Furthermore, there is also a sense of security in obtaining your source from something you can not only hear and see but you can actually hold, and smell, and keep, and store, and file, and referred back to again. The sensory perceptions that come with engaging in print media are undeniably more satisfying. Print media is tangible and print media is engaging and it is also easier to read. Furthermore, more information can be found in a one-page print than its counterpart and it also promises longevity and permanency. After all, what is printed now cannot be altered tomorrow giving it integrity.

In reality, PRINT is powerful. According to the Scientific American, the human brain will remember words on a physical paper much better than it would remember words displayed on dynamic screens. The act of physically interacting with the paper of a book stimulates the memory section of your brain more than a screen can. Print publications also have a more predictable set of loyal readers and publications can be written for a targeted and specific audience.

Therefore, on a personal level, writing for a print media gives satisfaction and sense of achievement because you know that your writing will be there forever and will one way or another leave a mark on your reader.

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NEWS

DepEd collaborates with DSWD for 'Tara, Basa!' Tutoring Program

Promoting reading to recover learning losses, the Department of Education (DepEd) forged their partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to launch 'Tara, Basa! Tutoring Program on Wednesday in Rizal High School.

'Tara, Basa!' Tutoring Program is a holistic social welfare and development program that aims to help elementary learners who have difficulties learning to read or cannot read yet to improve their foundational reading skills while offering short-term work and learning opportunities for financially challenged college students.

"Our grade learners will experience, embrace and love reading and the magical world of written and spoken words. The amount of knowledge and wisdom that they will be able to collect from reading is beyond imagination," Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines and Secretary of Education Sara Z. Duterte said.

"Ang programang ito ay nagpapakita na kapag ang ating gobyerno ay agresibo, determinado, at mahusay na pinamumunuan marami tayong magagawa, malayo ang ating mararat-ing, at sasalubungin natin ang ating kinabukasan na puno ng inspirasyon, pag-asa at posibilidad," she added.

Meanwhile, DSWD Secretary Rex Gatchalian said the reformed educational assistance program will give college students P500 a day for 20 days in exchange of being tutors or youth development workers and will provide P235 per day for parents who will attend the teaching sessions.

In the cash for work program, university or college students may serve as a tutor to struggling readers or youth development workers who will train the parents to become Nanay-Tatay Tutors to their children at home.

VP-Sec. Duterte expressed her gratitude to the young volunteer tutors for sharing their time and knowledge to the learners, for being selfless, and for loving their fellow Filipinos and their country.

"We hope to see more and more Filipinos like you. Filipinos who also see that investing in our children is investing in the future," she noted.

In addition, hearing and vision screening will also be conducted to participating learners through the assistance of the private partners to ensure that their eyes and ears are healthy and will not hinder their learning and reading skills.

During the launch, DepEd and DSWD also sealed their partnership through signing a Memorandum of Agreement as witnessed by DepEd NCR Regional Director Wilfredo Cabral, DSWD Usec. For Innovations Eduardo Punay, Pasig City Rep. Roman Romulo, and Pasig City Mayor Vico Sotto.

Source: DepEd Press Releases

Grüezi, young scholars, entrepreneurs, startups, and researchers!

The Swiss Innovative Prize Competition 2023 welcomes proposals and submissions that highlight potential impact, novelty and feasibility in any of its three (3) innovation streams namely: (1) digitalization, (2) sustainability, and (3) prosperity.

The complete mechanics to the competition may be accessed <https://www.eda.admin.ch/.../July/swiss-innovation-prize>.

Entry submissions are accepted until September 29, 2023. Interested applicants may email Mr. Kent Primor, Head of Economic and Trade Advisory, at kent.primor@eda.admin.ch.

SWISS INNOVATION PRIZE COMPETITION 2023

The Swiss Innovation Prize Competition provides a platform for young scholars, entrepreneurs, startups, and researchers to showcase their innovative solutions and secure initial funding for new ideas that have potential to advance into meaningful projects.

INNOVATION STREAMS

Project proposals are welcome in any of the following innovation streams:

- DIGITALIZATION**
Digital transformation, Internet of Things (IoT), and artificial intelligence.
- SUSTAINABILITY**
Reducing carbon emissions and adopting renewable energy sources, reducing waste and promoting circular economy, and promoting sustainable agriculture and food systems.
- PROSPERITY**
Entrepreneurship, education & skills development, and social inclusion & reducing inequality.

APPLICATION PROCESS

There is no format for this competition but proposals in each category must not exceed 5,000-word limit and must contain the following required elements:

- Executive summary;
- Background/rationale;
- Discussion of the innovative idea/project addressing: (a) potential impact, (b) novelty and innovation, (c) feasibility, and (d) sustainability;
- Action points/recommendations; and
- References (excluded from word count).

Only send your project proposals via email to:

The Selection Committee - Swiss Innovation Prize Competition
c/o Kent Primor, Head of Economic & Trade Advisory
Embassy of Switzerland in the Philippines
seccom@eda.admin.ch

IMPORTANT DATES

29 Sept. 2023 Deadline of entry submission
10 Oct. 2023 Notification of results
8-10 Nov. 2023 Final round

Awards will be issued in March for the final prize, runner-up, and official supporter award by the Swiss Embassy & awarding committee.

SCAN THE QR CODE

For further information, please reach us at seccom@eda.admin.ch or +43 2 886 0355.



Legacy of a Teacher

By: Julie Liezel Calma

"If you know when you have enough, you are wealthy,
If you carry your intentions to completion, you are resolute,
If you live a long and creative life, you will leave an eternal legacy"

– Lao Tzu

Legacy is a gift or bequest that is turned over usually from past generation to the next. It is more often than not, being handed down when someone passes away. These legacies may be in the form of beliefs, culture, doctrines, wisdom, knowledge, experiences, traditions or simply memories. Legacies are valued, cherished, appreciated, and treasured because of the significance not only of the mementos left but also because of the importance of the predecessor. As it is, so many people are trying their best to ensure that they will leave a worthwhile legacy to their loved ones and their people when they depart from this life.

However, not all legacies are left only when one expires. There is a legacy that is worth leaving and this legacy is not transferred on by demise but is instead passed on while the predecessor is alive. It is the legacy of knowledge, being transferred thru teaching. The legacy of knowledge and teaching is imparted all throughout the life of the teacher.

At present, there are over 600,000 public school teachers in this country. It is therefore, inspiring to note that too many teachers will be leaving their legacy to their millions of students.

A teacher, as she goes with her daily routines and rituals of teaching, is slowly, but surely building her legacy. This daily fostering of a teacher's legacy may either be positive or negative. Positive if the legacy contributes in one way or another for the betterment and furtherance of good deeds and positive values and negative if it is contrary to acceptable morals.

A teacher's legacy is built each day as she goes on with her daily life not only of imparting knowledge but of being an influence, a model, and an inspiration to her students, co-workers and family.

A teacher's influence can never be underestimated as it goes on and on. Henry Brooks Adams even said that, "A teacher affects eternity; he

can never tell where his influence stops". As it is, a teacher's influence is one legacy that she rubs on to her students. This influence may go a long, long way. It could be in the choices that the students make, their behaviors, their pronouncements, their goals, their drives, and their aspirations.

A teacher, serving as model, is also her legacy to her students. Either subliminal or not, the teachers become the representation, the exemplar, and the standard to which the students relate and aspires with. Thus, teachers teach more by what they are than by what they say.

Moreover, a teacher's legacy is her being an inspiration to her students. William Arthur Ward said that, "The mediocre teacher tells, the good teacher explains, the superior teacher demonstrates, but the great teachers inspires. A teacher inspires when she causes something good to happen or when she stimulates and provokes one to be better.

So how can a teacher ensure that she leaves a worthwhile and meaningful legacy? A teacher has to embrace her own individuality. She has to accept her flaws but celebrates her strength. A teacher has to be mindful of her limitations but should expound her advantages. She should explore her boundaries and minimize her drawbacks. Most of all, she should give her heart, her soul, and her whole being to her commitment to her students.

A teacher's legacy is her responsibility. Her legacy is her gift to the world. Her legacy speaks of her life's significance and substance. A teacher's legacy is her impact to her community. A teacher's legacy is her contribution to this society. A teacher's legacy is her claim to goodness. A teacher's legacy is her passport to peace and tranquility, knowing in one's heart that she gave her best and her all. Most of all, a teacher's legacy is her very essence for her existence in this world.



Building Organizational Teams

Jojit A. Bautista
Malabon University



For a leader to successfully build a global team, he has to know that nationality has been found to affect team members' perceptions, behavior, and interactions. Culture, too, has an impact in global teams since individualistic cultures differ so much with collectivistic culture in personal characteristics, commitments, and interests in the attainment of goals for the whole team. Individualistic culture tends to place more values on individual welfare while collectivistic culture are highly identified with the group and value harmony, unity, and group accomplishment.

Thus, global leaders need to be problem-solvers, emphatic and active listeners, as well as perceptive in the diverse expertise of other people. Furthermore, building trust is also an important highlight in the leadership task and cultural training to ensure that

global team members are equipped to address complex decisions that may be called for in the organization (Leading and Building Global Teams).

Therefore, team building and successful work teams are the secret ingredients to attain favorable results in an organization. To accomplish these, all team-members must realize that they are an integral part of the whole organization and that they are portions of the bigger picture where success is sought.

For a successful team-building to flourish, the 12 Cs should be given attention to and they are the following: Clear Expectations; Context; Commitment; Competence; Charter; Control; Collaboration; Communication; Creative Innovation; Consequences; Coordination; and, Cultural Change.

When all of the 12 Cs are addressed, team-members will be em-

powered and will be responsible for their own work processes (Twelve tips for Team Building: How to Build Successful Work Teams).

Conclusion/Reflections

As leaders, one goal is to develop a team that will collectively seek group success and produce desirable results that conform to targets and goals. This is made possible when leaders are able to develop commitment and interests out of the team players. Clear performance expectations are a critical factor in teamwork success; therefore, leaders should inspire members to acquire accountability and responsibility in the performance of duties. Leaders should be able to skillfully unite, fuse, and coordinate together all the skills and talents of members for them to function as an integrated whole.



SULTAN KUDARAT STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Industrial Technology - Isulan Campus



Sultan Kudarat State University is a lone-chartered university in South Central Mindanao particularly in Region XII. It produces international-level industrial specialists in the construction and food sectors including global researchers. The alumni are working as University Planner in the Unit-

ed Kingdom, Registered Electricians, and AutoCAD Operators and trainers in Dubai, and Riyadh, and are Champions in manual and digital arts, paintings, bartending, Coffee blending, and research presentations in Singapore, Hongkong, and Sydney, Australia. It has active linkages in Thailand, the USA, and Malaysia. It is the TESDA assessment center in Technical Drafting NC II which is a requirement for the local government and international employment. College of Industrial Technology is an institutional member of the Asian Intellect Inc. It was established by combining the five national high schools in the province of Sultan Kudarat by virtue of the Republic Act 6973 which is also known as Sultan Kudarat Polytechnic State College dated December 5, 1990, and was converted into a university by virtue of Republic Act 9966. dated January 18, 2010. One of the first curricular programs offered under the College of Industrial Technology in Isulan Campus was the Bachelor in Industrial Technology after its BOT approval on March 14, 1991. It is a ladderized program from the Diploma in Industrial Technology (DIT-BIT) curriculum structure. College of Industrial Technology is advancing to Level IV Phase II under the Accrediting Agency for Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP). The college is currently offering a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology (BSIT) and The AACCUP Level II, Bachelor in Technical Vocational Teacher Education (BTVTE) with majors in Automotive, Civil, Drafting, Electrical, Electronics, and Food Technologies. The 4th President of the university is Samson L. Molao, EdD the Campus Director is Mary Lynn G. Magbanua, PhD and Abraham S. Accad, PhD is the Dean of the College of Industrial Technology. One of the commercialized research-based products is the Gandara lei, out of oil palm inner fronds, fruits and flowers with individual adopters in addition to the Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) of the two nearby Bureau of Corrections. The Katahum Group of Artists is also a recognized group of alumni and students and the SKSU Isulan TAPI where technical and professional services are catered in both online and in-person engagement.





LITERARY PAGE

“Nothing”

*Too late-
I am in the other world.
Milky Way- I am beyond your reach.
I am a Polaris; you are a meteor
I reach out for you but you leave as you wish.
never had chemistry
it is a cycle of toxicity
of love and hate and hate and love
BEG BANG! There is inertia
of push and pull; of pull and push
in as much as I want to close and blind my eyes
the memories still look back to you
I want to deafen my ears
the voices still serenade me
my love, my love still holds
Though my legs are amputated,
the reveries are my crutches
of hello and goodbye; of goodbye and hello
chills, sweats, palpitations...
until I wake up from a dream
you never exist
EMPTY.*



By: Donna Grace Cotejo
Cebu Normal University



Harmonizing Education: The Transformative Power of Music as a Tool for Enhancing Teaching and Learning

Rosauro M. Perez, EdD
Education Program Supervisor – MAPEH
Tarlac City Schools Division



Over the years, educators and researchers have explored various methods to engage learners, enhance comprehension, and foster a love for lifelong learning. Amidst this pursuit, one powerful tool has emerged as a catalyst for transformation: music. As an Education Program Supervisor of MAPEH and a Music enthusiast, I've been advocating Music as useful strategy in teaching (MUST). Music can be a powerful tool to education.

Here are some sample scenarios that illustrate how music can be used to improve education:

1. Using Mnemonic Devices and Memory Enhancement: Teacher can use a catchy tune to help students remember a complex formula in Mathematics. By associating the formula with the melody, students find it easier to recall and apply the formula during exams, demonstrating improved memory retention.
2. Creating Engaging Learning Environments: An elementary school teacher incorporates background music during group activities and independent work time. The music is carefully selected to match the mood of the activity, creating a more stimulating and focused atmosphere. Students respond positively to the music, showing increased engagement and enthusiasm for learning.
3. Enhancing Language Learning: A language teacher introduces songs in the target language that feature repetitive phrases and vocabulary. Students sing along and internalize the language naturally, improving their pronunciation, vocabulary, and overall language comprehension.
4. Reducing Stress and Be Relaxed: During assessment or examination days, teacher play calming instrumental music in the classroom before the test begins. The soothing music helps alleviate students' anxiety and stress, enabling them to approach the exam with a clearer mind and improved focus.
5. *Fostering Creativity and Critical Thinking: In an art class, teacher plays a different genre of Music per art session. Different music will result different artistic approaches.*
6. Stimulating Imagination in Literature Studies: English teacher uses instrumental music to set the mood while reading a descriptive passage from a novel. The music enhances the imagery and emotions evoked by the text, enabling students to connect more deeply with the literary work.

By recognizing and harnessing the unique qualities of music, educators can unlock a wealth of benefits, from improved cognitive processing to heightened emotional engagement, ultimately creating dynamic and effective learning environments that maximize student potential.

Whether it is through active engagement with musical activities or the strategic integration of music within different academic disciplines, the use of music as an educational tool has shown remarkable potential for fostering engagement, improving memory retention, and facilitating deeper understanding. Remember MUSIC is a MUST.

Music as a useful strategy in teaching, why not try?



Advantages of Becoming Your Own Realtor

Jenecy Marzel Ferrer



There are many advantages to becoming your own realtor. If you are considering not hiring a realtor and you are confident with your negotiating skills, sure that your house is ready, know how to market your house, know how to list your house, and has enough knowledge on legal matters that involves selling or buying houses, then you are ready to become your own realtor and will not need to hire a real estate agent. This article discusses the advantages of not hiring a real estate agent and the list we have prepared is sure to convince you more that you have made the right decision.

You will save money when buying a house by up to 3% of the selling price of the house. If the house you are eyeing to buy is at \$300,000, that means you get to keep the \$9,000 commission of a buyer's agent. Houses are always expensive with overwhelming prices which means that the amount of money that you get to save is always going to be big enough for you to use it on other important things. When you choose not to hire a realtor when buying a house, do not stress yourself out too much with the process that you have to be dealing with alone. There are many resources where you can get helpful tips and information on a successful DIY house buying. The internet is your number one best friend in a situation like this.

You will save money when selling your own house. Earlier we discussed that you get to save 3% when buying a house by becoming your own realtor. A real estate agent traditionally earns a six percent commission for selling houses. So let us use the same price from earlier, you get to save a whopping \$18,000 if your house is priced at \$300,000. That is a much bigger amount of cash that you can allot for your new house. If you are

selling your home, you are most likely to spend money on buying a new one, it could be a traditional American home in a neighborhood or a condo in the city. Either way, you will definitely need money for both and the 6% commission that you get to save will be a great help for you. But since you are owning the responsibility of house selling, there will definitely be those stressful and tiring situations tied up to selling a house, but, as always Google is your best friend because there will tons and tons of tutorials and tips on how to successfully sell your own home by yourself available on Youtube and many other websites.

Houses that are being sold by owners or what they call For Sale By Owner (FSBO) tend to get buyers faster than that of a house that is being sold by a real estate agent. Many home buyers prefer to transact directly with the owners of the house rather than going through dealing with a middleman because they wanted to get information directly from the people who actually lived and owned the house that they are buying. Also, if you are the one going to sell your house, you are the only person who has the power to decide on all aspects of the selling process. Everything is going to be your call.

There will be fewer complications with licensing matters when you are selling your own home by yourself. A realtor would have to carry a license in accordance to different state laws to be able to handle transactions, but as the homeowner of the house for sale, you are not required to be licensed to sell or buy on your own. Just be mindful if your state law is included in those states that



Value Education or Not: It's All Up to You!

JOCELYN L. ABSOLOR, EdD
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It's an old adage heard most of the time from parents, grandparents, and old relatives that young people must value education. Children of the right age to be in school must be educated at all costs. For every Filipino family, education is a priority because, for them, it's the only inheritance they can offer to their children. And as time evolves, in everyone's eyes, which include both the poor and the rich alike, education is considered the ultimate way to improve one's life and condition.

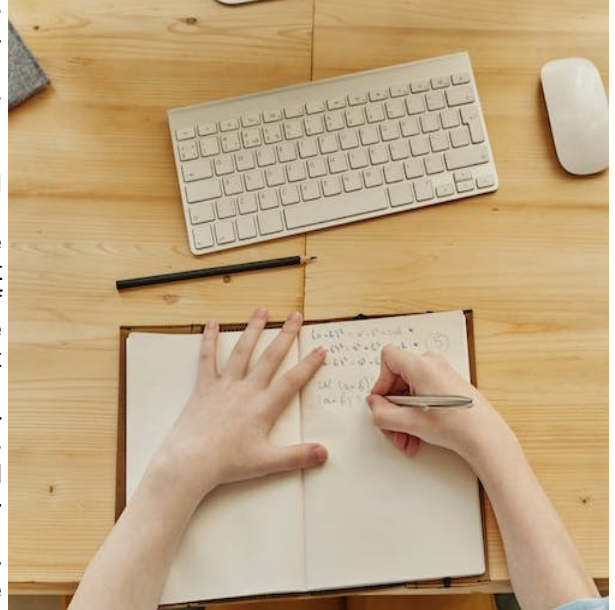
The value education offers is tantamount to success for those who work hard and attain it. Aside from the pride and joy it gives them, it assures them of a secured future. This kind of benefit that education gives is relatively true for those who see the real value of education. For them, perhaps education is not only about self-fulfillment and gratification; they clearly see bigger perspectives. The degree they earned will give them enormous benefits, thus making them a big contributor to the struggling economy of the country. They fully recognize and acknowledge the efforts of the government to provide free education for all.

The free tertiary education the government provides to its people came into law through Republic Act 10931, known as the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act. This law institutionalizes free tuition and exemption from other fees in state universities and colleges (SUCs) and local universities and colleges (LUCs) throughout the Philippine archipelago. Through this act, every family whose children are in college is worry-free when it comes to tuition fees and miscellaneous fees charged to them. This is a huge investment by the government, not only to increase literacy but ultimately to help its people acquire the necessary knowledge and skills in preparation for a better future. The state, therefore, is true to its commitment to implementing Education for All (EFA) as it allots the biggest slice of its budget to education.

The free education offered to everyone is a manifestation of the government's effort to recognize the aspirations and dreams of its people. To our naked eyes, education before was only enjoyed by privileged individuals. Only those who could afford it were able to educate themselves, while the poor ones struggled so much when they wished to attain it. Their countless difficulties sending their children to school have become a living testimony up to this point. They invest so much that they give up valuable properties like fields, cattle, and other valuables that can be converted into cash so that the education of their children can continue. Sadly, the poorest of the poor can be denied it. They have accepted the fact that there are no means to achieve it. It is never a choice, but it's a necessity to just give up and discontinue because of a scarcity of resources. Basic needs are to be prioritized for their survival and existence. These are the realities of the pursuit of education. These should give everyone reason to value more education, and on our part, those who have tasted success because of education should develop advocacy.

But despite the offering of free education from kindergarten to tertiary education, the statistics for out-of-school youth are still an issue. In 2019, the Department of Education reported 27.7 million enrollees, and it dramatically dropped to 23 million in 2020 (<https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1129909>). The most common reasons, as indicated by PSA data, are low family income, early marriage, and a lack of personal interest. In all fairness, the government continues its commitment to the provision of necessary measures to address this concern. The government sees the need to establish the Magna Carta for out-of-school youth through Senate Bill 1090, which strengthens policies and programs for the OSY.

The offering of free tertiary education is, in fact, fostering a greater challenge for everyone. There are questions that need to be addressed. Two major concerns are raised: does free education guarantee alleviation of the living conditions of the Filipino masses? Does it truly equip its people with the necessary knowledge and skills in preparation for their future jobs? Well, these questions are up to us to investigate. For now, we are truly privileged to enjoy free education and are comforted by the fact that it benefits everyone who desires it. From a larger perspective, free education undeniably addresses the torments and struggles of every Filipino.



Filinvest Offers Luxurious Residential Complex in Clark

Clark Freeport Zone in Angeles City, Pampanga is booming now more than ever. Tourists are fascinated with the combined relaxing beauty of nature and luxurious offerings of lifestyle in the area. Naturally so, more people are wanting to own a piece of Clark's upscale charm by owning a residence in the area.

The introduction then of Filigree's newest high-end residential development located at Filinvest Mimosa+ Leisure City, Golf Ridge Private Estate is on perfect timing. This exclusive private estate affords its residents a picturesque view of the world-class Mimosa Plus Golf Course in Clark, Pampanga offering unparalleled views and leisure activity. Its proximity to an international airport and major commercial hubs also makes it an ideal home for those looking for a sanctuary and a good investment in the North.

The high-end residential complex offers the following features:

- ✓ 14-storey mid-rise and high-end residential condominium
 - ✓ Enjoy lush landscape views of a world-class golf course
 - ✓ Spacious units with elegant finish are available from one - bedroom (1BR), two- bedroom (2BR), and three-bedroom (3BR) units
 - ✓ country club-like lifestyle perks
 - ✓ Accessible to major highways like the NLEX, TPLEX and NLEX
 - ✓ Located near schools, hospitals, churches and leisure attractions
 - ✓ Just few minutes away from the Clark International Airport
- Surely their pre-selling terms are worth considering.





Dr. Murphy P. Mohammed: *A Paragon of Excellence*

A paragon is a perfect example of a particular quality and most certainly Dr. Murphy P. Mohammed is a paragon of excellence. The forty-six-year-old engineer from Tarlac City has been showing excellence and distinction since he – a licensed civil engineer and Master Plumber Board Examination passer - joined the academe in 2005 as faculty member of the Tarlac State University (TSU). In this year, he also graduated from the Master of Arts in Teaching Mathematics course and immediately started with his doctorate studies.

After only two years, he started the climb and continuously went up the administrative ladder when he was assigned as the Chairperson of the Ladderized BSIT in the College of Computer Studies of TSU in 2007 until 2011 and during this time frame he obtained his doctorate degree in Public Administration. The following year, he was appointed as the Director for the Center for Local Governance until 2015.

In 2016, he headed the Intellectual Property Office and immediately soon after he became the Director of the Production Office. Soon after,

his love for teaching prevailed and he went back to teaching in the college of Information Technology. In 2015, he obtained a full scholarship from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and finished Master of Science in Civil Engineering from the Dela Salle University in 2017. He soon passed the Licensure Examination for Teachers and after which he went back to teaching and later to the College of Engineering until 2022. From February to April of 2022, he was entrusted to head as Director the Office of Planning, Performance Monitoring and Evaluation. By April of 2022, Dr. Mohammed became the Vice President for Administration and Finance and eventually was tasked to be the Vice President for Research, Development and Extension where he is serving until the present time.

The young vice president has numerous publications from national institutional to refereed SCOPUS Indexed journals. He also presented in both national and international research conferences held in the country and abroad. For the past seven years, he was also a consistent part of the conferences of the Asian Intellect FAOAD Inc. lending his

expertise in research as conference co-chair and convener.

This paragon, the indefatigable Murphy P. Mohammed, needless to say, is a man of many aptitudes. He is an engineer, a doctor, an educator, a scholar, a leader, and a bachelor. Should we say the obvious that this paragon is also the most eligible bachelor in the academe? Surely you will all agree but most importantly, we will all be of the same accord that Dr. Mohammed is indeed a paragon of excellence.





Why is There a Problem of Absenteeism?

Filipina A. Langit
Mangaldan National High School



It is observed that absenteeism among school-age children is a chronic problem that besets the education sector in the country and even across the globe.

Absenteeism almost always occurs in high numbers due to chronic illnesses and family crises, but these absences are not what offer the most concern to school systems. Unexcused absences are the core of the problem being addressed not only nationally, but also in other countries that have compulsory school attendance laws. Unexcused absences often fall under the term of *truancy* (Williams, 2004).

Now it is obvious that absenteeism is a problem being given serious thought and consideration by concerned agencies since the problem has implications that couldn't be ignored.

Several implications both to students and the community have been identified as problematic when student absenteeism increases. Students who have absenteeism problems generally suffer academically and socially (Williams, 2004).

More so, absenteeism in students affects their school performances especially when they are in a group or teamwork for their assignments and projects. Since grouping will help develops the students' cooperative and ability to share and gain knowledge from their group mates, likewise, the group mates will also miss the opportunity of gaining knowledge from the absent student (Koppenhaver, 2003).

We know that those who drop out of school frequently move on to lives of delinquency and crime, which has a tremendous impact on society. Lotz and Lee (1999) indicate that acts of delinquency are more frequent among students who exhibit low grades, have spotty attendance, and later drop out of school. Further, Walsh (1993) suggests that truancy leads to delinquency and later to adult crime.

In a study by the Casey foundation, which has stepped up its focus on attendance in recent years, the problem is particularly acute among students from low-income families. The foundation reports that, in 2009, more than one in five poor kindergartners was chronically absent, compared to only 8 percent of young students living above the poverty line (Sparks, 2010).

In the Philippines, it is reported that health issues play a great role in the prevalence of absenteeism. In 2009, Angelo Garcia wrote in his article titled "*Health woes cause drop-out, absenteeism – DepEd study*" that health problems are the leading causes of drop-out and absenteeism among public school students today and that in order to reduce school drop-out and absenteeism, DepEd intensifies its Essential Health Care Program (EHCP) and targets the leading cause of absenteeism.

Some other identified reasons for absenteeism include lack of parental involvement and supervision, lack of interesting and challenging curriculum for students, a desire for hedonistic activities with peers, negative self-image and self-esteem, and participation in co-operative work experiences for older students. Additionally, many students seem to take advantage of the lack of consistency in attendance policies and their enforcement by both teachers and administrators. Conversely, keeping older students in school because of compulsory school attendance regulations has also been cited as contributing to high absenteeism for those who simply have no desire to remain in school (Williams, 2004).

There are recommended solutions and strategies that are being introduced by various concerned sectors.

One solution to prevent and correct serious attendance problems,

WORDS of LIFE

Accepted in the Beloved



Ephesians 1:6 — to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

God doesn't accept us based on our obedience or good works. He accepts us as we are, and our obedience and good works come from His acceptance of us.

His love is never earned because it is freely given. It is our response to His love that defines who we are in Him.

We don't work to be loved by God. We do good works because we are loved by Him.

schools need to change the way they structured improves the quality of the courses and intensify interpersonal relationship between teachers and students (Epstein and Sheldon, 2002).

Here are some interventions and preventive measures are also being recommended to solve the problem of absenteeism.

There are known observed coming factors in school systems that have reduced the rates of absenteeism and first is that their attendance policies are strict and enforced, and in some cases are backed by community support. Parents and students are held accountable for absences, with strong sanctions when they do not comply. Second, early interventions that include counseling to try to prevent continued patterns of absenteeism have been successful in some schools, as well as positive reinforcement by school personnel to reward students who improve their attendance. Moreover, schools that methodically monitor and track their students' patterns of absenteeism and who follow up with parental contact and legal sanctions report some reductions in absentee rates (Williams, 2004).

In conclusion, the combined efforts of teachers, parents, school administrators, and the relevant government agencies will make a difference in the battle against absenteeism and the child-learner benefits through it all.



The Happiness of Teaching

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Happiness is defined as that of great pleasure, especially of an elevated kind. Thus, it is found in something that makes us extremely pleased, delighted, and elated. A person's happiness comes from various sources. There are those who find joy from their families, from their pets, from their hobbies, or from their acquisitions. Yet, there are those who draw out happiness from their professions and callings.

There may be too many callings, but teaching is one profession that is as a great starting place of their happiness. To seasoned and newbie teachers – the happiness of teaching are simply fulfilling and rewarding. Teaching is fulfilling because it gives you the sense of having done it all or having given your best. Rewarding too because you feel like all your efforts and hardships paid off when you see the students march off the stage during graduation. Teaching gives the feeling of satisfaction knowing that some peoples' lives have been touched, changed, and perhaps improved. A teacher's influence is far and wide, and the teacher seeks joy from the knowledge that she contributes in molding some people's destinies, and lives.

In her entire career, a teacher meets thousands of students and each of these students is uniquely different in their aspirations, backgrounds, dreams, ways, means, problems, and paths. However, all of these students all experienced teaching, nurturing, and caring for by their teachers. Teachers in turn, will go happily through life knowing that they have impacted and guided their students.

As for monetary incentive, teaching may not be that gratifying. Nevertheless, happiness of teaching comes from how a teacher contributed to the shaping of a student's persona. From the first grade to the post-graduate level, the teacher never gets tired of shaping their students to be who they want to become. The teachers are one of the lowest-paid professionals but are the most-humbled, most-tired, most-stressed, least-glamorous, and least-relaxed of them all. Despite it all, the teachers are compensated with utmost joys just seeing their challenged students graduate. Teachers are ecstatic when they learn that their students become successful, and teachers are euphoric when they are informed that their former pupils are grateful to them for their mentoring.

Real happiness is knowing in one's heart that one's life is not wasted because each day is special and precious as each day passes with the students beside you. Each day, a teacher helps complete a vision. Each day, a teacher completes a puzzle that when complete ensures success. A teacher is an inspiration to her students, a light to her tutees, a guide to her scholars, and a beacon to her apprentices. With all of these, it is teaching is indeed a happy profession.

KIDDIE NOOK



MARTHENA GABRIELLE D. ADDUN

Our young mind in this issue is the cute, MARTHENA GABRIELLE D. ADDUN, a cutie from Angeles City, Pampanga. Gabbie, as she is fondly called by family and friends, is now 7 and was born on NOV 11, 2015. She is presently in Grade II – Special Science at the Don Antonio Lee Chi Uan Integrated School. This young lass finished her first-grade last year with honors and great enthusiasm. She loves drawing, singing, dancing, playing Roblox in her free time and like most kids favor pizza, fries, and ice cream. Gabbie is cheerful, energetic, thoughtful, and considerate. Our young mind in the spotlight wants to be a doctor and a youtuber someday.



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MAY BE THE MONTH

'May' may be the month of mourning
Many within and around us separate
To find their worlds of glorious wisdom
From our darkness to someone's light.

Fair maiden, let your dreams come true
Since the age, you bid time for it alone.
The hour is here for you to embrace
Everything that you left behind in the past.

Remember not, time wouldn't rewind itself
For us to recreate the past we walked together
Of the lovely days we went blank and bliss
Never recall; move forward knowing no one behind.

Shall I bid goodbye to our octennial fancies
That saw the zeniths and nadirs of a lifetime?
Never. We met for something that we never knew, unexpectedly.
Expected was our separation, holding the artifact of the same.

Let me find the lost somewhere within us or between us.
Distance may take you far away from me soon
I know it is impossible. Be the queen of someone's dream.
Nevertheless, you stay within the petals of my heart forever!



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