

EDUCATION IS REAL— FROM OUR SCHOOL TO YOURS

by:

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The devastating effect of the pandemic has had a great impact on different sectors of our government including education. The question of what should be prioritized – health or education. Despite this situation, life must continue. Our dreams will not remain dreams. We should live to have that dream of a better life.

At present, education is one of the most affected sectors of the government but needs to be considered as a key point to face today’s challenges. Educating the nation will prepare learners of the future generation to fulfill such dreams without hesitation. Though present education has confronted many hindrances but still need to deliver quality teaching to the most affected learners.

Our future will depend on what we have invested today. Education plays a vital role in building the future we want to have. The role of an educator is to foresee what lies ahead to our children. In the midst of the situation, the teachers have remained committed, doing their pledge and constantly holding onto the purpose of pursuing the passion to teach, inspire and serve the youth. As all believed that this generation has to continue to make history for our nation.

Every Filipino has the right to quality education. This statement will remind each teacher that education should be made possible in many ways. The paradigm shift of education from traditional “face to face” to homeschooling is a transition in the field of education, which changed the way learners learn. That is why teachers have to look at interventions to help them become educated. This is how the “Mobile Class Program” was conceptualized.

The Mobile Class Program is an innovative teaching program that makes education possible for all. The SHS teachers believed that every student has their own story, free to dream and create their own future. If only given an equal opportunity, geared with knowledge and skills, surely, they can face the competitive world confidently. This is how “Mobile Class” was conceptualized. This becomes the answer to the question of how education will continue during this difficult time.

The Mobile Class for TVL and ACAD is a collaborative effort of the teaching force of SHS teachers initiated and headed by OIC- Asst. Principal, Charies N. Dela Peña with the support of the school principal, Dr. Ara S. Velasco. This innovation aims to (1) deliver safe, accessible education to Senior High School learners who belong to the modular modality, (2) provide technical assistance to SHS learners for both academic and technical strands, (3) enhance basic numeracy and literacy across all subjects among students during the implementation of distance learning, and lastly, monitor learner’s progress.

Now, Pagalangang National High School- Senior High School Department was recognized as the first secondary school in Bataan, conducting regular mobile classes every Tuesday and Thursday in Dinalupihan and nearby towns. The said program started in November 2020 and was continuously implemented after the Schools Division of Bataan-School District Superintendent’s approval and supported the initiative. The Mobile Class Program has offered SHS (Grade 11 and Grade 12) with two tracks such as Academic (ACAD) and Technical-Vocational Livelihood (TVL). The Academic track program has three strands such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), GAS (General Academic Strand) and HUMSS (Humanities and Social Sciences) while the TVL has two strands to offer such as Agricultural Crop Production and Computer System Servicing (CSS).

Based on the Learners Information System (LIS) – Senior High Department, there are about 12 % of total enrollees who are marked as SHS learners with learning needs. These learners are enlisted as beneficiaries of the mobile class program. Each Class

Adviser has identified learners who need assistance such as learners who have encountered problems answering the activities, learners who have experienced difficulties in accomplishing tasks in their modules, learners who are constantly being monitored through home visitations due to personal and family problems and the like.

With the help of parents and other stakeholders, the teachers have looked for a suitable venue where the mobile class can be set-up where teachers and learners can meet face to face to conduct class sessions while observing health and safety protocols. The mobile classes have already saturated the remote areas where learners live and cater more learners who are underprivileged and those who do not have the capacity of education due to difficult situations.

As of February 2020, there are 66 learners who have successfully benefitted from the program. The Mobile Class has eased the students' hunger for education --- giving opportunity to every individual who desires to gain access to education - equal and fair to everyone.

As Department of Education says, "No one will be left behind". As many say, "SANA ALL", every individual should be given a chance to learn. If students cannot go to school, then, the school will take it to them. Due to circumstances, dreams became uncertain but not to those who are willing to make their future possible. The existence of mobile class is to take them to reach their goals and make their dreams to happen --- the vision of rebuilding the nation, bringing the unreality to reality, realizing certainty and creating a better society.

With the fast-changing society, our future generation needs education in order to survive real life. It must be prioritized and delivered. Education is definitely real. The way to make it --is through Mobile Class – from our school to yours.

References:

DepEd says 'No one will be left behind' as classes start. October 5, 2020 from
<https://ptvnews.ph/deped-says-no-one-will-be-left-behind-as-classes-start/>