

EMBRACING CHANGE: EMPOWERING STUDENTS THROUGH K + 10 +2 EDUCATION SYSTEM

by:

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In 2013, former President Benigno Aquino III signed and passed the K-12 Basic Education Program. It aimed to add two more years of education for every learner so they could become ready for tertiary education and/or job-ready after Senior High School. Despite the good ambition and objectives of implementing this curriculum, it seems that the result of the K-12 Basic Education Program is unsuccessful in many areas. In this case, the Department of Education is still finding ways to solve this challenge in the Philippine Education System. They have been doing intensive studies about it to ensure that no student will be left behind along the way.

In 2023, former President and current House Senior Deputy Speaker Gloria Macapagal Arroyo suggested a notion on how to solve this problem. She made a bill known as the "K + 10 + 2 System". This bill seeks to replace the current K-12 Basic Education Curriculum with a K-10-2 System covering kindergarten and 10 years of basic education, wherein learners have to attend 6 years of elementary school and 4 years of high school. The addition of two years of post-secondary, pre-university, and college education will be given for those seeking professional studies such as in accounting, engineering, law, and medicine. This measure seeks to eliminate the two additional years of basic education's burden on parents and pupils.

In accordance with this bill, it can be able to help the students have an option whether they want to pursue college or help their parents with their farm and microbusinesses after fulfilling the 4 years in high school. If they wish to go further in their professional studies, this is the time when the students must prepare themselves by

having two years of pre-secondary or pre-university education after high school. This is to enhance and develop their chances of succeeding in college or university and onward to professional licensure. Through this, better opportunities for the learners will open, and a clearer and brighter future awaits.

The Department of Education has a very dedicated mission and vision to provide a quality and relevant education for learners. These learners will become the hope of generations in the future. It might take a long time to achieve all the best in the interest of the students, but one thing is for sure: a multi-combination of hope, courage, hard work, and perseverance will become an easy way towards a successful Educational System in the Philippines.

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