

BAYAHIHAN NA NAMAN SA ESKWELAHAN

by:

Susana J. Redima

Teacher III, Poblacion, Mariveles Annex, Mariveles Bataan

As another school year will start administrators, teachers, and parents will face more challenges in the new school year. It is a known fact that common educational problems include: a lack of classrooms, teachers, textbooks, and instructional materials. Especially now. Cracking these problems takes time, it should start with the easiest one and that is improving what is already available. Fixing and improving the school building and its environment would be a good start. Before the new school year kicks in, the school itself must be ready. Brigada Eskwela could be one of the solutions in dealing with all these problems.

Bringing back "Bayanihan" before each school year makes a great contribution. Somehow, it is similar to Neil Armstrong's quote "it is one small step which leads to a giant leap of mankind." The Bayanihan spirit is one of communal unity, helping one another without expecting in return, to achieve a certain goal. Bayanihan is a well-known Filipino culture and tradition that we must revive in the Philippine Educational System.

This Brigada Eskwela not only prepares the classroom environment of the students but as well as to create a harmonious relationship among the stakeholders. Cooperation and unity will be strongly built up by doing this activity which could be a strong foundation for achieving the goal of the students. It is a must for the school organization to have these qualities to avoid conflicts in targeting certain educational goals. Thus, Brigada Eskwela does not develop or improve the school infrastructure/facilities itself but as well as the people involved in it.

Aiming for something to happen will accomplish much easier and faster if it is done cooperatively. Just like the yearly Brigada Eskwela, a tradition that kicks off a new academic year, highlighted by “Bayanihan” where community members help in cleaning up classrooms and school premises to make them ready for the students.

References:

Yvonne Su and Ladylyn Lim Mangada (Humanitarian Practice Network (2016):

Bayanihan after Typhoon Haiyan: are we romanticising an indigenous coping strategy