

I AM NOT A ROBOT

by:

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"I am not a robot." This simple yet powerful statement underscores the extraordinary qualities of teachers. It highlights their need for balance, rest, and personal time, reminding us all of their irreplaceable role in shaping the minds and hearts of future generations. By valuing and supporting teachers, we acknowledge their humanity and the profound impact they have on our world.

Teachers often discuss their vacations, which, despite being intended for relaxation, are marked by a keen awareness of the need for balance and recharging their energy. When they assert, "We are not robots," they emphasize their humanity and the necessity of rest, not only for their well-being but also to maintain the high standards of education they provide. This sentiment was recently supported by the Department of Education with the release of an order in 2024, titled "Amendment to DepEd Order No. 022, S. 2023 (Implementing Guidelines on the School Calendar and Activities for the School Year 2023-2024)," issued on February 19, 2024. Item 7 of this order states that "No voluntary or mandatory tasks or activities shall be assigned to teachers from June 1 to 30, 2024," underscoring the importance of undisturbed vacation time for teachers to recharge and relax.

Balancing work and life is undoubtedly challenging, but teachers continuously strive to achieve this equilibrium. They recognize that a well-rested, fulfilled educator is better equipped to inspire and educate. The dedication to finding this balance, even when it seems elusive, speaks to the incredible strength and perseverance inherent in the teaching profession.

At home, teachers find time for household chores or family activities. Their efforts, whether in the classroom or at home, are driven by a profound sense of responsibility and love for those around them. This dedication often means sacrificing their own downtime, but they know that their work has a lasting impact.

Retirement for teachers often comes at a time when their children have grown and started families of their own. This new phase of life allows teachers to focus on themselves and, finally free to explore personal passions and interests. While some might find this transition challenging, it also presents a unique opportunity for self-discovery and growth. Teachers can use this time to reflect on their careers, celebrate their achievements, and enjoy the fruits of their lifelong dedication.

It's essential to recognize and appreciate the immense value teachers bring to society. They are far more than machines performing tasks; they are individuals with the capacity for empathy, critical thinking, and continuous improvement. Unlike robots, whose actions are programmed and predictable, teachers can transform mistakes into valuable lessons and create innovative solutions.

References:

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