BATTING COVID-19: FACING THE NEW NORMAL

by:

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“Great power comes with great responsibility,” – Spiderman.

It is common in every Filipino household to hear phrases like, “Education is the key to success”; “Education is the only thing I can give to you as inheritance”. Those phrases are very familiar to every Filipinos. It is rare not to hear those phrases when you are a Filipino especially brought up in unfortunate and middle-class family. Filipinos see education as a necessity to survive in this world. Even tracing back in the history, you are considered fortunate when you have the luxury to be in school and hold textbooks in hands. Once graduated, the society sees you as a new person – as if you were reborn. They have so much respect to people who have degree. Before, only few people can afford to go to school but as time progress, education became more accessible even to those families in grassroot. Many children in parts of our country who have potential but does not have the means to enroll in school have received scholarships from the government and numerous non-government organizations (NGOs). Little by little, each family can have at least one professional or graduate in the family member. And as a teacher and a part of the education system, it brings great pride to me. Seeing how my students started to dream for their future, graduate, and reach their goals in life is truly exceptional. It is true, there are still few things to be refined, but everything is going through their own pace not until this COVID-19 happened. It brings chaos.

Doctors, nurses, pharmacists, road sweepers, and every frontliners are doing their best in this battle. They are passionately giving everything they have to serve their fellow countrymen. And just like them, teachers like me is also giving our all to still bring a quality education to our students despite hurdles in our way. This is not the time to lay
our armors down. Even if we have to spend time manually and personally checking modules of more than a hundred students; personally deliver and pick up modules in secluded areas; learn how the new technology works; be a laughing stock of some pupils due to unfamiliarity to gadgets; put up with slow internet connection; and even spend more to electric and internet bill… still we gave to satisfy the hunger for knowledge of our students. They are exerting efforts to learn and adjust in this new normal, so do we. This is not the time to be discouraged and let our light be devour by darkness, instead, it is the time we should shine more to guide our students.

“Great power comes with great responsibility,” – Spider-man. We are not heroes like Spider-man or wear capes like Superman, but we have our own way of fulfilling our responsibility. We have the power to educate and influence future generations of this world and it is our responsibility to do our best to shape them and be someone that would serve their country and people with passion and dedication.

References:

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