CLASS SCHEDULE: SHOULD IT BE WHOLE DAY OR SHIFTING?

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Most of the students back in the early 2000s or even earlier than that are used to going to school from morning ‘till afternoon. The class schedules back then are, more often than not, starts at 8:00 o’clock in the morning and ends at either 4:00 o’ clock or 5:00 o’ clock in the afternoon with 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm as lunch break. But in recent years, the Philippines have implemented the “double shift”, in which students either attend in the morning or the afternoon/evening, particularly in public schools.

The practice of “double shift” in schools is not an exclusive practice of the Philippines. In fact, double shift schools have been in use throughout the world since the early 20th century. The distinction perhaps lies with the reason why a certain country or educational institution implements this kind of practice.

Should we practice a double shift? What are the effects of this kind of practice? Of course, as everything else, this has advantages and disadvantages.

According to the World Bank, among the advantages of a double shift are, it reduces overcrowding and allow for maximum use of resources, it allows greater access to students in rural areas; and it allows those students who want to finish school a chance to attend in the evenings while working during the day.

The disadvantages, meanwhile are the, students spend less time in class which may lead to reduced knowledge gained, and most of the students in school with double shift schedule do not have the opportunity to experience extracurricular activities.

Double shift indeed, has its pros and cons. Given that we are a developing country, with more population than educational resources, perhaps, we could just try to get the best out
of this practice. But if we can, it would be better to give the students optimum learning opportunities through a better schedule and enough time for learning. After all, our students today are still our chance for a better future generation.

References:

www.worldbank.com