DON’T BURN BRIDGES

by:
Rechelle V. Forbes
Teacher II, Mariveles National High School Cabcaben

Two of my colleagues who are also close friends got quarreled because of their advisory class. One happens to be the former, and the other is the present adviser. Actually it sprouted over a petty remark of students about their last year’s Year End party which made their former adviser offended. Then, the former adviser fought back, scolding her past students which made the present adviser offended, too. Whew!

On my personal note, I opined that when our advisory class is too close to us, it is very hard for us to let go. Unconsciously, as former advisers, we still keep on monitoring our past students. We are still longing for chit-chats with them just like the old days. That whenever misfortunes block their way, we are still their knights in shining armour. We sense that they are still our little kids not yet willing to surrender our being so called “loco parentis” upon them.

But hey! I guess we have to back off. Though I am guilty that I had been a victim of jealousy which is inevitable, but life, as the common cliché goes, has to propel forward as well as our teaching career. Apparently, jealousy among advisers is one of overlooked concerns in academic institutions.

According to Harris & Darby (2010), jealousy may be provoked because an intruder impends to trespass upon a treasured rapport, thus sinking the relationship recompenses an individual experiences. Furthermore, jealousy may ascend because of the presence of implicit harsh social comparison and contingent rejection of the individual undergoing jealousy. The sentimental experience of jealousy is often labeled as a mixture of emotions, which comprise anger, fear, anxiety, and sadness.
Healthy relationships with colleague can help teachers cope up to the variations occurring specially during vulnerable time. Though it is obvious that the schooling atmosphere has been byzantine as time goes by, it is not an astonishment that peer relationships tend to flourish. Nevertheless, in the reason of diverse personality, absence or miscommunication and inescapable incidents, jealousy arises.

However, come to think of it. Though jealousy is a natural emotion among human, and teacher is susceptible to acquire such, it is a must to control our emotion and don’t let it run over us. Students come and go, but the friendship we build among our colleagues may last a lifetime. Don’t burn bridges just because of jealousy.

So going back to my story, fortunately, after three days of not talking to each other, my two colleagues finally made up and settle their misunderstanding. I guess they realized that their friendship is far more important than any issue.

References: