EDUCATION AT ITS FINEST

by:

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“Education does not pertain to degrees and diplomas but to attainment of wisdom.”

What is education? A question that hovered on my mind for quite some time - a gap to be ruled out. Since I am an educator a lot of concepts popped in my mind, answers that went beyond the boundaries of education.

In the study of Sah and et. al (2018), they mentioned that education involved a life-long learning endeavor that continues from infancy to old age. Furthermore, Smith (2015) emphasized in his writing that everyone has a fair chance to cultivate learning and to share in life through education. Most often than not, people think that education is synonymous to schooling and educated people are only those who graduated from various levels of educational institutions such as elementary, secondary, collegiate, graduate and post graduate.

Education is way beyond the concept of schooling since it aims to uplift and mold individuals to become better members of the society. It gears to transform unsightly caterpillars into beautiful butterflies, a pure notion that is misunderstood by many.

Way back as early as prehistoric times, man already practiced the process of education when they invented the first tools or even applied fire in cooking raw foods, acquiring heat during cold nights and keeping predators at bay. These practices showed that education was indeed as ancient as time.

In the previous educational system, flaws were observed when gurus forgot the main objective of education. During the industrial era, rational education system trained
students by batches using the same strategies in delivering lessons. Traditional teachers operated on the dogma that individuals can be trained to become efficient machineries.

However, gone were the days that individual differences were overlooked. In this educational era, the dilemmas of the past become the strength of the present educational system. 21st Century Learners were taught using the Gardner’s Theory of Multiple Intelligence. According to an article written by Herndon (2018), students learn in different ways at different times on their own pace. Out of Gardner’s theory, differentiated learning instructions were born. Educators deliver lessons at their finest. On the other, students were communicated with the language known to them. They are given chances to grow individually in order to become one of the finest members of the society.

In line with the notion of education, our country had learned a lesson the hard way when the result of the Program for International Students’ Assessment was released last December 2019. We landed hard at the bottom for the reading comprehension and bagged the second to the last in Science and Mathematics out of the 79th countries who joined the assessment program. Despite that educational blight, the essence of education was realized right away when the Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary Leonor M. Briones launched Edukalidad, a campaign to upgrade the educational system of the country.

In her campaign, K-12 Curriculums will be revisited, teachers will be upskilled and reskilled, learning environments will be improved and stakeholders will be tapped for collaboration in order to deliver quality education.

At the end, education and educational system indeed have their own ups and downs but we need to remember that the finest quality was always purged with fire. To wrap up ponder on the quote, "Things work out best for those who make the best of how things work out."
References:

