EDUCATION MUST CONTINUE

by:

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Education is a continuous process. It is a journey that is without a destiny, it means it is a never-ending long joy ride that every day you get a chance to acquire new learning that somehow improves you as an individual. But what if a devastating event could possibly hindrance you to continue going to school? What if a pandemic hit our world, like what happened to us last year? Should we all stop and wait for everything gets normal again? Or should we find ways to learn to adjust in the new normal?

In this time of pandemic, education must not be put to halt. Education must continue to serve its purpose which is to inculcate and hone young minds to become effective and efficient individuals. With this, the Department of Education in the Philippines with the help of our Education Secretary Leanor Magtolis Briones launched the DepEd Order 008 series 2020 which is entitled Guidelines on Enrolment for School Year 2020-2021 in the Context of the Public Health Emergency Due to Covid 19. These modified enrolment guidelines, anchored on DepEd Order 003 series 2018 (Basic Education Enrollment Policy) shall serve as a guide to administrators, teachers, parents, and students for the enrollment of school year 2020-20201. This policy provides variety of options on how to conduct remote enrollment safely. Since there is a current pandemic that hampers teachers, parents, and students to be physically present in school and be admitted this school year, this DepEd Order was formed. These guidelines ensure that education must continue and learning opportunities should be provided to all the learners nationwide no matter where they come from, their economic status, their gender, or their ethnicity. This policy aims to provide basic quality education for all.
Similar to previous years, relevant and significant information from the learners and from the parents or guardians are also needed this school year. What makes more different now is that a new form should be filled out by the parents or guardians of the learners. This form is called Learner Enrollment and Survey Form (LESF). This LESF will be sent to the learners through online like in email or via messenger app but for those leaners who do not have access to those, their parents can drop by to their nearest barangay hall and should get a form from the kiosk installed by the school there. Some frontliners, specifically the barangay tanods, are also asked to help in distributing the form. Upon receiving the form, parents or guardians of the learners should start filling out, additional information in the form that should have an answer is the various learning modes like available devices, possible facilitator etc. to name a few. When parents and guardians are done filling out of the form, they can now forward it the previous advisers of their children or bring it back to the barangay hall and drop it inside the box in the kiosk. The implementation of the new enrollment methods this school year should be primarily facilitated by the previous adviser. The adviser should collect the LESF and enter the data and other survey information to the End of School Year Learner Information System.

Given the current health situation, what we can expect from now are some possible changes again soon. This pandemic has caused us so much in terms of lives, money, opportunities, and health. Let us work together, cooperate, and practice those health safety protocols to end this pandemic. Let us help one another in bringing back the old normal.

References:
