EDUCATORS SHOULD NOT STOP LEARNING

by:

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Just like any other professions, being a teacher and an educator requires an advanced degree or certification. Majority of educators in the Philippines have earned degree in education, or may have associate certification, eligibility, master’s degree or even doctorate degrees. But learning doesn’t end with a degree or certification. Teachers must walk continuously in the path of learning and professional growth to help improve their practice and ensure success in teaching students.

National Education Association (2018) believes that in order for the society to expect quality teachers and educators, one must do the necessary learning to support growth, development, and excellence in the teaching profession. Teachers should not only be a qualified teacher but aims to become a teacher leader. The continuum on professional growth among teachers involves key concepts in communication skills, cultural competence, organization, reporting, ethics, health and safety, technology, and professionalism.

Educators like us sometimes think that we’re already good teachers, but we know that there’s always room for improvement no matter how much experience we have and degrees we finished. One way of building our personal career growth as teachers and enhancing our skills in teaching to network and collaborate with other members of the teaching profession, our colleagues. Through collaboration, teachers can share fruitful ideas and best practices. Interaction between teachers provides an opportunity for each to acquire knowledge not only based on books but also from experiences. Being a good teacher, like what life teaches, learning and teaching is a changing process so that it must
be continues and no room to decline knowledge. When teachers teach, they also learn at the same time. Different principles in teaching is learned throughout the changing generation of students. Continuing education helps teachers obtain intelligence, skills and moral principles.

At the center of ever changing types of learners is a teachers who plays too different roles aside from teaching. Teachers as educators plays a pivotal role in providing solutions to problems, mediating with students’ concerns, giving advice and providing guidance. Teachers can expect to encounter a number of students who need very particular attention and psychological support during their career. Through continuous learning and education, teacher may equipped themselves with skills needed to become a positive reinforcer on students’ lives.

Teachers should adopt a life-long learning mind set. Teachers report that their working conditions determine the opportunities to learn new things that are useful for their profession. To consider that teachers still have personal and family responsibilities, finding time to study could be a big challenge for some teachers. Time management between personal and professional career growth is very important among teachers not setting aside their enjoyment and satisfaction in their chosen career as educators.

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