ENHANCED CAMPUS JOURNALISM THROUGH K TO 12

by:
Dr. Mildred B. Famorcan
Master Teacher I, Maligaya Elementary School

Republic Act 7079 (1991) states that freedom of the press should be upheld and protected even at campus level and therefore promote the development of campus journalism to strengthen ethical values and encourage critical thinking among Filipino youth.

The Department of Education is mandated by the law, to conduct and sponsor periodic competitions, press conferences and trainings where student-writers and advisers participate. With this mandate, schools and campus from elementary to tertiary level train young campus journalists to participate in competitions.

Masajo (2007) cited that campus journalism safeguards the halls and the posts of democracy and provides the student readers a deeper perspective; things that happen under their noses. At the early stage, young citizens embrace the idea of freedom of the press and the same time impute the true meaning of responsible journalism.

K to 12 Curriculum helps in enhancing the pupil’s writing skills in Elementary level. As early as Grade 4, pupils were taught how to write news report based on given facts (EN4WC-IIIh33) and how to write an effective editorial (F4PU-IIId-2.5). At the Grade 5 level, pupils are trained to write a three-paragraph feature article (EN5WC-IIIi2.2.7). Skills on how to write a part of a sports news (F6PU-IVc-2.11) as well as radiobroadcasting script (F6PU-IV e-2.12.1) were also included in the Grade 6 learning competencies.

The inclusion of these learning competencies in the present curriculum only proves that the department continuously adheres to the mandate of the law. It also helps to develop young citizens to be vigilant in safeguarding the long-fought democracy. Khan
(2010) stated that campus journalism is good pool for future journalists where student writers can develop their skills and discover their crafts.

Umali (2017) emphasized that journalists are catalysts of change and reminded the role of the literary works written by some of the noble Filipino heroes. Children who would develop a love for writing would develop a deep love of one’s country. Hence, as early as possible, the Filipino youth should be taught and train to write responsibly, writing out their voice and do their share as part of this growing country.

References:
K to 12 Curriculum Guide 2016
Umali, Tonisito (2017). “Campus journalists as catalysts for change. ”National Schools Press