FORWARD SHIFT OF EDUCATION FOR FILIPINOS: K TO 12 PROGRAM

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In 2013, the Philippine Government signed the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013 known in simple tongue as the K-12 Program. This allowed the Department of Education (DepEd) to completely implement the needed reform in the education system which has been particularly stagnant for decades. As for every major changes, it received mixed reactions and opinions aplenty during the early stages of implementation. But a long been outdated education structure made the Philippines one of the last few countries globally to transition into a more modern syllabus.

Almost half a decade in effect, the education department has yet to see the real world impact of the program to be able to assess its efficacy and improve the sections they need to recalibrate. At its early years just like a computer software, naturally, it still has its bugs and glitches. DepEd still has a lot of adjustments and adaptation to accomplish but regardless of the effect, it is still an improvement for the new generation of Filipino learners.

Decongesting the former 10-year configuration of the basic education into 12 years help not only the curriculum to be much more conducive but also the students since it sets their mind to their chosen college program. It gives the pupils a foretaste of what to expect in the tertiary level; lessening the ‘shock’ in the sudden change of learning customs and environment.

As the world advances into a more professional-centered economy, it clearly needs more people with expertise and skills that will contribute to an ever-demanding work field. K-12 introduces young Filipinos to the world of professionals that can develop their certain skills and inclinations. From engineering and scientific skills, business and financial management capabilities, and to an abundance of a lot more of possible
preferences, these are just the broad citation of what the proficiencies the future modern workforce of the Philippines.

The Enhanced Education Act’s official first batch of students will be graduating at the end of the academic calendar this coming 2018. It will be the first ever batch of high school graduates produced by the country that will have undergone work immersion programs before the end of the school year as a requisite of the Department being a part of the program. Development of work ethics that will prepare them in the workplace and familiarization of the workplace will aid their perception of the real world for their potential prospect profession gives the learners edges as a part of the productive labor force therefore putting the country side by side with the international professional standards.

Although huge changes were undertaken by the Government, it still boils down to every individual, every stakeholder, because it needs more than a change in the system to improve and excel, everyone must perform their role even how small. A role partaken can be regarded as a role accomplished, we are like individual parts of a motor; any gear that moves, moves the other and moves the vehicle as a whole – the country as a whole.

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