‘GULAYAN SA PAARALAN’ IN LEARNING INSTITUTIONS

by:

Ruby B. Salvador

Executive Order No. 26 entitled National Greening Program (NGP) with five major goals that include Food Security, Poverty Alleviation, Environmental Conservation, Waste Management and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation paved way for the implementation of “Gulayan sa Paaralan” Project (GPP). In every public elementary school, “gulayan” is required. Teachers, pupils and stakeholders are expected to get involved in the activities.

Under the program, all schools are asked to establish and maintain the ‘Gulayan sa Paaralan’ and become a source of ingredients for the feeding program. Also, through this project, the school has encouraged the “Pantawid Pamilya” partner-beneficiaries to have their own home garden for the continuous nutritional improvement at home.

According to the DSWD-7 Regional Director Ma. Evelyn Macapobre, this is a good convergence program wherein National Government Agencies (NGAs) like DSWD and DepEd, the Local Government Unit (LGU), partner Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and most importantly the Pantawid Pamilya partner-beneficiaries worked together for the common good.

Being a teacher-coordinator of this project for some time, I am aware of the benefits of having this in the school. First and foremost, this project promotes environmental awareness. Now that environmental degradation is quite alarming, planting is a hand for better ecology. Secondly, pupils are equipeed with skills that can be used to maximize their productivity in the near future. In their own backyards, they may apply what they have learned and become productive in their own little ways. Another is the vegetables and fruits that are acquired because of this project. Feeding program in the school is being supported because of the benefits under the GPP.
Seemingly satisfied by pushing this initiative, GPP should be pushed through to further heights. Stakeholders should be involved and teachers should have the drive to improve everything they have. At the same time, support given by the administrators also matters. By then, GPP is indeed a great project. All learning institutions should maintain its functionality.

References: