Sangguniang Kabataan is indeed an ideal training ground for leaders full of hopes and ideals. The education sector, however, has its own version, the Supreme Student Government.

As an adviser of SSG for more than three years now, I can boldly say that, it is such an awesome experience to work with student leaders whose vision and commitment are carried with greater passion and deeper joy.

Seminars and trainings are undeniably helpful for our students, honing to be the leaders of the future. In my personal experience, the actual activities, projects and programs are the more pressing ones. Tears and rest after fatigue, smiles after praises, learnings after successes and failures, heartaches after disagreements and headaches after rush decisions and actions made these young leaders a warrior who never get easily surrender.

To accomplish something substantial, an action plan is a must. Planning the work, then to be executed accordingly, a formula everyone knows. What made this taxing is that, along the way, unavoidable circumstances hamper its win. People, situations, time and/or any other factors may challenge our young leaders’ stamina to serve, out of nothing but respect and just a mere appreciation of what they have done for the school and to the whole student populace.

Student leaders as unique individuals allow themselves to think, feel and act unselfishly. More than willing to give up their partiality for the greater good. During our conferences, I am always excited to see how these physical meetings turned into a
“meeting of the minds”. They discuss, share, suggest and weigh things that matter to the students the most. Their ultimate goal is plain and simple – to think of something that can touch the lives of the students.

To be a leader is to be a motivator. Every young leader is anticipated to set an example to others. Yes, it may be demanding but the call for leadership in this generation is a little bit tougher. Students look for role-model leaders.

Every time we see how the members of the school community value and appreciate all our efforts and when we feel that we shared some sort of good influence to many others, that is the real FUN, it is MORE of joy than happiness.

References:

The New Times. (2013). Appreciating student leaders. https://www.newtimes.co.rw/section/read/107702?fbclid=IwAR0DkY5Vo6BSVWRTN09ozAJ9SDBnbp7Yfh713F2iVPM0m2JDRZOb6uzY