JUSTIFICATION ON THE ROLES OF TEACHERS

by:
Frederic M. Martal
Teacher III, Pagalanggang Elementary School

A teacher has many functions to fill in their profession. They can be a nurse, a cook, a messenger, a painter, a psychologist, and a counselor to name a few. They have to transform from one person to another to deal with the simultaneous problems encountered inside and outside the classroom. The teacher becomes a one-person team inside the classroom.

The story of every teacher is a story of victory. But before that victory is attained, the metamorphosis of a teacher from no one to someone must have gone a long way. The road towards the prize may be rough and difficult to attain but given the proper time and effort, there will always be a way. No teacher can attain the prize and the victory alone however – teachers need the support of the parents and the school authorities to make it through.

Looking beyond what a teacher can do, especially in the life of students, their role is varied and differentiated. They can be a controller, prompter, resource, assessor, organizer, participant, and tutor. Someone who is in the position may tell that they can be all of it. They can be a controller and at the same time participant; an organizer and a resource; an assessor and a combination of which. The more, the better indeed.

Some teachers are in complete charge of the classroom – the spaces are clean, the bulletins are organized, the tables and chairs are set in order, and the students are disciplined. As a controller of every aspect of the classroom, the teacher seems to be the power that cannot be outlawed. The classroom management is excellent but has the
teacher asked whether the children were happy and passionate about learning? Is the environment enjoyable at all?

Other teachers encourage the students to go for the day’s goal. However, sometimes students are not able to understand the goal, there the teacher enters to support the students in times of confusion and difficulty. Though the teacher has good intentions, how long a teacher would support or prompt the student and to what extent? If pampered in this way, students may see the pattern and abuse the teacher’s good intentions. This is possible though.

Some teachers are good provider. In the absence of paper or allowance, the teacher is a hero or a heroine to many of the students. However, along the process, when the students are pampered too, they become reliant to the teachers.

Another teacher knows that students’ potentials need to be brought out. Is this not the primary goal thus to be achieved? The teacher is focused in dealing with bringing this out. However, is the method of assessment right? Is the student’s intelligence properly and trustworthily evaluated? For every intelligence in the Gardner scale, there is a particular training that needs to be done. It is a particular application and not general.

A teacher minds the students’ progress all the time. Like a biological parent to the students, they always take good care of them, wishing them all the best in their life. However, sometimes, if abused, teachers become victim of their own ways and means. Proper care and adoption of a system is excellent when balanced and done with reference to its outcome.
References:

06 Jul The 7 Roles of a Teacher in the 21st Century
