K TO 12 PROGRAM: COMMITING TO QUALITY EDUCATION

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One of the prods of the Department of Education is to yield proficient graduates who can follow the leanings of globalization and innovation of the 21st century. DepEd is now concentrating on how we can attain this. As we all know, DepEd is the one who holds the key accountabilities to attain this mission in our society.

In his keynote speech, former President Noynoy Aquino said that "We need to add two years to our basic education. Those who can afford to pay up to fourteen years of schooling before university. The new curriculum recognizes the elementary education as the country’s major program for the delivery of mass and universal education to our people. It is society’s main avenue for the development for civic and and special values, particularly a sense of humanity and nationhood."

DepEd, in preparation for K-12 program conducted trainings and seminars for school heads and teachers to achieve the goals of K-12 which is to create a functional basic education system that will produce productive, competent and world class individual.

If we match our basic education to that of our neighboring countries, we find that the Philippines is the only Southeast Asian nation that implements the 10 years basic education while Brunei, Cambodia, and Thailand have the 12 years basic education. Through the efforts of the DepEd, K to 12 has been implemented since the school year 2011-2012. The components of K to 12 are Kindergarten and 12 years of quality basic education, which is a right of every Filipino, therefore these should be provided by government for free in public schools.
The individual who go through the 12-year platform will get an elementary diploma (6 years), a junior high school diploma (4 years), and a senior high school diploma (2 years). A bundle of 12 years of basic education will finally be mandatory for entrance into tertiary level education.

Improving our education begins and ends with great teachers and school heads who will uplift the K to 12 program to its highest level to accomplish better quality education.

References:

K12philippines.com
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