KEEPING THE FAITH

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Being a teacher in Alternative Learning System (ALS) is a challenging task. The scenario is very different from the ordinary or regular class. Since ALS caters to youth who drop or leave schools for different reasons, attitudes towards study are commonly negative at the beginning of the class and mostly wanted to stop even in the middle of school year.

At first, ALS teachers need to seek enrollees for their classes in barangays through mapping where they are looking for possible students. The difficulty to encourage out of school youth to engage in schooling is high because most of them lost their interest to study due to overage, poverty, peer influence, early marriage are few to mention. Still teachers must continue to persuade out of school youth to undergo with the program and be able to pass the Accreditation and Equivalency Test (A & E) in order to pursue higher education.

The problem doesn’t end with the number of enrollees for ALS who attend the school regularly, but lies on how these learners increase their interest to finish the program and be able to take the test. Most of the learners leave the ALS class due to personal dilemmas and never come back so teachers need to provide stimulating activities to keep them in school and at the same time motivating them effectively will help them to finish the program.

Teaching out of school youth requires a lot of patience, dedication, hard work and commitment since the learners are extraordinary and need more attention in dealing with them because most of them tend to lose their interest to continue and leave again the school. It is very tragic that most of these ALS students didn’t finish what they started though some of them only take the test even didn’t attend regular schooling that only lead to negative result.

Taking and passing the A & E test is the ultimate dream not only the learners but also every ALS teacher since it is the fruit of their hard work. So keeping the faith for the learners to finish the program and be able to take and pass the test is always the prime goal of every ALS teacher. And for the learners it will also keeping the faith to pass the A & E in order to move to the next level and be able to pursue whatever dreams they want.
References:


