MORE THAN A PURPOSE

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To have a direction in life, one should live with a purpose. However, the process of identifying one’s purpose is arduous. For some people, it takes decades to determine their purpose. For others, at young age they have known it and they have done everything they could to serve it. For teachers like us, teaching is the main purpose of our profession.

In the field of teaching, our main clienteles among the stakeholders in the school are the students. In fact, according to Raisman (2012), the students are the most important stakeholder group in school and we do everything we could to serve them. We are not nutritionists who are experts in nutrition and but we nourish their young minds and help them flourish their knowledge and skills and oftentimes conduct feeding programs. We are not guidance counselors who are experts in giving advice but we help them improve their personal characteristics and recommend possible solutions to solve their personal problems. We are not physicians who are experts in curing diseases or social workers who are experts in stress debriefing but we help in healing the wounded hearts of few abused students. We are not engineers who are experts in planning and its execution but we help students to plan and draw their future and guide them in realizing it.

That is teaching. Teachers also perform some tasks of other professionals. But teachers and teaching do not only encompass other professions but also makes them. It has been a cliché but will forever be true that teachers make engineers, physicians, social workers, guidance counselors, nutritionists and all other professions in the world. The
future relies on our hands. That is the gravity of our responsibility. So more than a purpose, more than a service, and more than a job, teaching for someone like me is a mission – a mission that drives my life.

References:

Raisman, N. 2012. Students and Staff are the Most Important Stakeholders and Customers on Campus.
http://academicmaps.blogspot.com/2012/08/students-and-staff-are-most-important.html