OUR SCHOOL, STILL A SECOND HOME FOR THE MILLENNIALS

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"Teachers should be sensitive to the changes in the society for their lessons to be effective," DepEd spokesman USec Nepomuceno Malaluan said in an interview of Mariz Umali on 24 Oras. This is a great challenge but also a huge opportunity for the teachers to teach students to love learning with obedience and to enhance personal values especially in this fast-paced world. A divine purpose with responsibility for both parents and teachers.

At home, the seed of love and faithfulness starts to grow as parents nourish every single moment in their child's life. They never get tired of doing their very best despite of their weaknesses to be good examples for their child.

But they have to go to a pace where their child walks, runs and builds his or her dreams. A blistering pace that may threaten how the seed was planted and cultivated and the span of its growth where millennials are depicting a rattling life story.

Most of the millennial students preferred topics that may let them feel their worth as individuals and that will give them a chance and confidence to voice their opinions and show their abilities and skills. According to Mary Bart, millennials as one of the most studied generations has provided us with unique insights into their learning preferences, behaviors and attitudes. She said that these learning preferences generally affect their behaviors and attitudes as how their behaviors and attitudes affect their learnings.
At school, the teachers continue the nourishment to growing millennials as learners. Teachers as second parents foster the children and bridge the generation gap evidently in the changes in our institution. As stated by Christy Price, EdD, that there is a gap between students’ expectation for success and the effort they put forth in the classroom, she shared the strategies of engaging millennial students. As a teacher, having rapport and relational communication have a direct effect to a great purpose towards learning with obedience and enhancing personal values started by parents at home.

Both parents and teachers engage and encourage today’s students to have unforgettable and positive memories at home and at school. Both spend time, pay attention to and respect even their gestures and facial expressions, always see the good in them and show honesty in appreciating them in every aspect as children and as students. Parents nowadays also show great interest in the activities and to their children themselves. They were also updated with the different applications, websites and pages in social media. But they make sure that personal communications do not breakdown in their home. Teachers connect with the students on a personal level helping them to apply the information that they Google, use multimedia in lessons even in communicating with them and let them express their ideas and interests in anything around them.

“Students are going to be more likely to work toward achieving their learning outcomes if they have a positive rapport with us… You don’t have to be their best friend. You just have to be perceived as being on their side,” Price said.

A companion or a friend, a second parent or foster parent is what a teacher should always be to students, millennials or of any generation; someone that trains up students the way they should go. A teacher that is always willing to listen, to give pieces of precious advice and to pray for their students. At the end of the day it will always be fulfilling and rewarding for teachers to be parents even not at home but at school as our second home.
References:

Price (2009), The Five R’s of Engaging Millennial Students by Mary Bart

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