The office of the assistant principal is an important position in the Philippine educational institution. Together with the school principal, he is expected to secure the smooth implementation of curriculum and academic programs being applied in the school. On this regards, he is shouldered with different responsibilities that are needed to be complied and to be achieved. This falsifies the pseudo belief that he is just second to the school principal without any great function to the school operations. Actually, his function and necessitates him to possess the principles such as heart for the youth, passion for education, positivity of mind and humility of heart. Hence, with these core principles (Larsen & Hunter, 2014), he may lead the school to its full potentials.

First, the assistant principal has to have a heart for the youth. It pertains to the desire to help the young generation to attain their dreams. He encourages his subordinates to give their best in order to deliver their top and the most effective lessons that will alleviate the lives of the youth. He does not condemn anybody. He embraces all as if they are all part of his family. He does not judge a teacher who has done wrong, but rather cordially and respectfully amend him or her through fraternal correction. Likewise, he does not condemn the naughtiest student in school, but rather look for avenue to revamp their behavior through paternal care.

Second, the assistant principal needs to have passion for education. As an instructional leader, he has to ensure the quality curriculum implementation of the Department of Education. It can be done through the participation in the school’s annual planning of the activities, preparation of the learning materials to be used by the teachers, informative
school based Learning Action Cell (LAC), and consistent mentoring of new teachers. It can also be discerned through punctuality in attending the classes, weekly checking of lesson plans with recommendations for improvement, kangaroo monitoring of classes, and constructive class observation of classes for teachers. Another way of showing his passion is to for education is by upgrading and updating through seminars, workshops, and further studies (Barnett, 2012). Through these, he may earn knowledge in fulfilling his duties and show his concern to education.

Third, the assistant principal needs to have humble heart. As part of the school managing body, he needs to work in harmony with everybody most especially with the school principal. The assistant principal recognizes this special task of the principal. Thus, if time arises that his will is not the same with the principal, he has to accept and look for the bright side of differences. He has to develop a humble heart particularly if in the eyes of the principal. The personal judgment is not the best decision to take. With this, he needs to be versatile and obedient because this is what a humble heart can do. It is through sincere obedience that a humble heart can collaborate in the success of the school.

Last but not the least, the assistant principal has to have positivity of mind. A positive person looks at every situation as an opportunity for improvement. He is not immediately demoralized by difficulties, challenges, and frustrations. Instead, he encourages his subordinates to strive more and to develop more. If he faces problems, he deals it enthusiastically. He tries to get positive things from negative experiences. He believes that through these, he may learn more, may influence others and may encourage the whole institution for its betterment.

Taking the role of the assistant principal is indeed a challenging task. He has to possess principles in order to fulfil his duties for the students, for the teachers, and for the entire educational institution. However, having the great power mandated to him, bridges to greater responsibility. Thus, he holds a significant role in the school success. This requires him to exercise extraordinary principles in order to realize everything that is entrusted to
him. On this note, principles such as heart for the youth, passion for education, loyalty for the institution, positivity of mind and humility of heart of an assistant principal that should be manifested in words and actions.

References:
