SAVING WHAT MAKES SENSE

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As an educator, I believe that knowledge is a powerful tool in every aspect. The birth of every breakthroughs, no matter how simple or complicated it is, is a product of ideas and concepts we have in our minds. But because we are in a fast-moving era, time flies so fast that we are being surprised of the changes that happen around us, what is “in” today may not be recognized tomorrow. In the world of education, where we, teachers, are destined to impart knowledge, sharing of wisdom to our students is giving them a weapon to fight ignorance – weapon that cannot be taken away from them.

What makes up this weapon? Simply, the passion in our hearts, and the materials that we use in our daily routine – books, resources from the internet, and other instructional materials we use in teaching. How we deal in changing trends of gathering information to be taught to the students is always a challenge.

Last March 27-29, 2017, I attended a seminar workshop conducted by LRMDS-Bataan about “digitization”. In this process, we came up with the idea of preserving the contents of the old books, magazines, research studies, and other reading materials that are useful resources of information. Books can be damaged, and it may be a waste of time for one to open pages of books just to find out the meaning of things. Through digitization, by using an “app” on a cellphone called “camscanner”, we were able to take clear pictures of book pages, and then send them to a Learning Resources Portal that is www.tinyurl.com/bataan-lrmds to store all the scanned materials. In that way, the information that was printed will not be lost although the pages from its original source are lost or damaged. Effort is what we offered to make this feasible. As part of the goal, time spent in carefully opening pages of old bulletins that were published
1960s is indeed, significant. Because pages tend to be torn once opened, extra patience was needed in scanning the materials.

Proud and fulfilled – the two exact words that describe what I felt after the accomplishment of the process. It is simple and easy, yet the effect of it may be of great impact to the future.

In reality, using the internet is just “one click away” to what we are looking for. Books and other printout materials are being ignored. But, did we ever think that old resources may be the roots of current knowledge, and therefore should be preserved? Are we certain that recent and updated facts are much better than the old ones?

Technology helps us in many things. To us, teachers, it facilitates our roles in sharing knowledge to students, but, because I believe that appreciating the old ways of gathering data is important, utilizing what the technological age has offered is paramount to maintain what is significant, to save what makes sense from the past, in the present, and in the future, and digitization makes it possible.

Reference:

Division Memorandum No. 60, s. 2017 – Division Training-Workshop on Digitization of Learning Resources.