TAKING THINGS POSITIVELY AMIDST UNCERTAINTIES

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A sudden announcement shocked everyone in the afternoon of March 13, 2020. Instruction to stay at home was given in the midst of the checking of test papers of the recently concluded Fourth Quarter Examination for Grade Six pupils and the preparation for the forthcoming graduation day on April 3. Sadly, the information was relayed to the classes… and as expected of the unexpected situation, the classroom was filled with cries among pupils who still cannot believe that it will be their last day in school.

The teacher, on top of the situation, tried to pacify the emotions of pupils and turned the saddened atmosphere to an embracing comfort and assurance that everything will be alright. Never ending goodbyes, selfies and groupies until the last learner walked out of the classroom was the last scenario. After that, an empty classroom and a single soul of a worn-out teacher remained calm while grasping all school forms, records and documents to be brought home so that the remaining tasks to be done can be accomplished while waiting for the instruction when can everybody return back to school.

Unlike the other days of happy Fridays when teachers looked forward to weekends when they can regain their strength and erase their tensions and stress from all school works… that Friday afternoon was different. Uncertainties enveloped the faces of every educator who closed the door of a once busy, jolly and noisy four cornered space. Nobody was heard saying “See you on Monday”.

The group chat on messenger became the only channel to speak to our learners, parents and co-teachers. Days... weeks... months passed by so slowly. During that length
of time, queries were answered by teachers and school heads only to make everyone aware that we do not have the authority to decide whether the graduation and recognition rites will be pushed through. Everyone asked when can they get their report cards? Many are asking when can they get their certificates of good moral character? Messages of frustration among parents and learners flooded the mobile phones of teachers. Teachers were also bombarded by negative reactions when they started the interview with parents regarding the Learner’s Enrolment and Survey Form or LESF. Though that was the case, teachers were still there to turn all the negativities to positive views that we can still continue to gain education while trying all our best to combat the Covid-19 pandemic.

It may be true up to this very moment, that while others still have those negative comments about the decision to continue with the School Year 2020-2021… the teachers and all workers of the Department of Education possess that heightened positive outlook in life that together… we can achieve this goal that no one will be left behind… and we are all doing these “para sa bata, para sa bayan”.

References:

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