TEACHERS’ PROFESSIONALISM

by
Aileen M. Robles
Teacher III, Balon Elementary School

A true professional is one who could admit his mistakes, or not static nor dormant and must be morally upright. A real professional does not easily believe in “talks” and would not entertain “intrigues”. He/she knows how to accept change and not be a hypocrite. Considering the fact that no man is perfect, we are all inclined to commit mistakes.

As mentors, teaching is our profession, therefore it is one of our duties and responsibilities to maintain high standards of personal and professional conduct. Let us avoid talking destructively and criticizing the weakness of other people. A person who makes good use of his time, minds his own business, feels accountable for his work, systematizes and organizes his activities, is a good leader, morally upright, humble, has good public relations and welcomes feedback and constructive criticism is considered a professional.

Nobody can escape from criticism. Why? Because we are just human. We have our own limitations, weaknesses and imperfections. What the Bible states about criticism is to pray for your critics; bless them that hurt you,” If you force yourself to pray for your critics then, you cannot think any more about the injury that he/she has inflicted on you. Small people talk about people. Big people talk about principles, world events and great men talk about ideas.

Educated persons who are professionals should be virtuous, that is, practice the virtues of humility, charity, justice, cheerfulness and love. True professionals are those that behave from day to day with good conduct, have no hints of artificiality, with dignity and clear conscience. The saying goes that “The mark of a superior man is when he can control his passion”. This is professionalism. Therefore, why should a teacher not aspire for professionalism?