THE ANATOMY OF A SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER

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On May 15, 2013, the Basic Education Curriculum was signed into Republic Act 10533 or “Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013” to strengthen the curriculum and increase the number of years for basic education.

R.A. 10533 is a law commonly known as the K-to-12 Act which established a universal kindergarten and introduced Grades 11 and 12 to high school students in both public and private schools. Thus, learners are required to complete the extra years in basic education to qualify for college. In order to meet what the law demands, Department of Education hired about 30,000 teaching and 6,000 non-teaching staffs – for academic school years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

Expectantly, there are educational attainments that an educator must pass and possess in order to be considered as a senior high school teacher; namely: Bachelor’s degree, Master’s degree, National Certificate, relevant trainings, and teaching experiences. These are but some of the educational qualifications to be met by a senior high school teacher.

- A GUIDING MIND

In this day and age, it is indeed a 21st century learning wherein it is not only in books that students get information from, but also from what the internet and social media platforms provide. Being an SHS teacher, it is a must to be knowledgeable of the trends which can be of help to teaching.
Having mastery on a certain subject is an essential tool in teaching, for a teacher who knows how to navigate smoothly throughout a discussion is someone to respect. On the other hand, 21st SHS learners still adapt to the change of curriculum in the Philippines education system. Due to that, many educators deal with students who face emotional and psychological difficulties. These often break down the walls that barricade a student and a teacher, and these give youngsters the sense of trust in their educators’ hearts.

According to Sanders (1989), “All teachers, whether in a residential institution for disturbed youngsters or in a regular classroom, deal with psychological issues, whether they like it or not and whether they know it or not.”

It is only then that a child can learn and grow inside a four-cornered home if he or she is honed by a logical, yet caring educator.

### A HELPING HAND

Being the learners’ parents at school, teachers become the people who lead them through their successes and lift them when they stumble along the lurches of the academe’s ground.

There are two kinds of growth that students can achieve through education: personal and academic. Provided of the necessary tools and proper guidance, a child can learn from what education shapes him or her to be.

Growing into someone who is never sure of his or her decisions is the stage where learners face their basic who, where, when, what, why, and how in life. For one who experiences to be uncertain as to what the future holds for college, it is surely hard to find a person trustworthy and logical enough to share one’s problems to.
As an educator, SHS teacher should learn to bring students to safety. It is either in the teachers’ ears or hands that they find themselves fitting to lay their burdens and rants on. Aside from being a listener, an educator acts upon the needs of the learners.

One can either provide the students remedial classes, know the roots of a learner’s problem through home visits, or give the youngsters a company of an adult.

An SHS educator knows what struggles an SHS student face, for an educator sees what lies beyond the joy or sorrow a student feels when they receive their exams and grades.

- **A LEADING HEART**

Above all that an SHS educator must possess, it is the heart that really counts: love is what’s felt most in this world, even in the academic community.

In a four cornered home, a family is built amongst the people within there. It is in an educators’ hearts where love for others is developed. It is where a teacher shares a piece of their students’ souls, where they connect the dots of differences, and where they break the walls that barricaded us.

Love is a hormonal feeling, yet what an SHS teacher can share with his or her students is different. It is the calmness of knowing that an educator has led them to the paths they now walk onto. It is the assurance that a teacher; especially an SHS teacher, turns learners into achievers.

A teacher may have had regrets, but being an SHS teacher is not one of those. A teacher should be proud of himself / herself for choosing this profession and accepting the responsibilities as well.

SHS teachers, yeare for the greater good of their students who happened to be the greatest motivation in their teaching careers.
References:

