THE ESSENCE OF BRIGADA ESKWELA

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The Department of Education (DepEd) defines it as their “annual bayanihan" program aimed at bringing together nationwide voluntary efforts and contributions for the maintenance of public schools.” It was announced by the said department on May 11, kicked off on May 15 and ended last May 20, 2017, right before the school year begins.

Parents, students, school officials and volunteers from civic groups, companies, local government units joined together as they prepared the schools for their first day of classes in June. Everyone helped not just in cleaning and repainting the classrooms but also in repairing the school facilities. School officials, on the other hand, inspected those which needed improvements.

Promoting disaster preparedness was also one of the goals of Brigada Eskwela. As stated by the department’s memo, all schools are required to post a directory of emergency contact numbers of government offices in areas around the school, maintain a supply of drinking water of having alternative sources of water available, and coordinate with barangay officials for the students’ safety outside school.

Brigada eskwela is a valuable activity not just for the schools and students but also for those who have taken part in it. Being one with the community is a kind of fulfillment that goes beyond any other accomplishments. Brigada Eskwela has proven that bayanihan, which literally means “being in a bayan” that refers to the “spirit of communal community, work and cooperation to achieve a particular goal” still exists among us, Filipinos.

Reference:

https://themixedculture.com/2013/09/25/filipinos-bayanhan/