THE IMPORTANCE OF PRIMARY EDUCATION

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It is a very well-known notion that education is a basic human right. The constitution provides equal educational opportunity for everyone. Aside from being considered as a key to sustainable economic development and stability within the country, education is known as a major player in the development of an individual. Therefore, education is an indispensable mean to achieve a strong economy and a responsible citizenry.

However, none could argue that primary education is the foundation of the entire educational pyramid (Shah, Khan & Shah, 2018). This stage provides the foundational knowledge and skills needed by the students to adapt to the changing world and thus prepare them for the challenges of adult life. It is considered as the backbone of the education system.

Primary education is vital and it needs a constant evaluation aimed to further develop the system. First, this stage of education should focus on language and arithmetic. Attention should be paid to both cognitive and intellectual aspects along with social and emotional development. Language and arithmetic are necessary for the continued development of the learners. First, the learner should have a mastery of the mother-tongue, then Filipino and then English. All these should be developed during the early years along with basic mathematics facts and skills. It is exciting to see the time when all the graduates of the elementary level are fluent in reading, speaking, counting, computing and reasoning. Thus, there is a need to review the congested curriculum and focus on what are essential.
An outcome-based approach can be adopted in order to ascertain that students are well evaluated and that strategies and interventions are tailored based on individual needs. In this manner, the system can set challenging targets for every pupils and assessment can focus on groups and individuals. Additionally, the government has to increase its investment on early years education. Current efforts to provide children with special needs can be applauded as the strategies and even the classrooms are specifically designed to their needs. However, only basic care is provided to students who have no special needs. They are just given the same boring kind of education which does not support playful and exploratory learning. Investments should also focus on these types of learners.

Primary education is focused on the broad development of our students during the early years of their lives. The cognitive, social, emotional, cultural and physical skills of the students are developed during this stage. It is in this stage where pupils are honed so that they will be prepared for the future. This task demands the attention of the school leaders, teachers and parents. It is only proper that solutions to improve the current system of primary education be sought so that we can live to the promise of higher quality of life to the people.

References: