THE MODULES

by:

Anthony S. Bliss
Limay Senior High School Applicant

I can still remember two weeks before the domino-like effect national lockdown, my co-teacher and I were discussing possible distressing scenarios. Never did it cross our minds that this virus would slip in the hands of the medical experts and eventually became the nightmare were all afraid of, a full-blown Pandemic.

Then you just woke one morning, realizing that the world with insatiable desire for speed and past-faced life, came to a halt. Yes, the world stopped. At least, temporarily.

But despite of this dark event in our history, life must go on. Government must function at its best, Economy must continue to grind to stabilize the economy. And academic institutions must flex amid pandemics.

“… Our battle cry is learning must continue,”- Education Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones.

“We cannot afford to keep schools closed for such a long time. It has a significant long-term impact on our children. It inflicts a tremendous social and human cost.” - Singapore Education Minister Ong Ye Kung.

Perhaps it is safe to say that majority of the parents approve of continuing the learning venture of their children even during pandemic. But how to roll the learning modalities became a big concern in time of the COVID-19 pandemic whereas ensuring the safety, health, and welfare of all learners, teachers, and Department of Education personnel.
The Modular Distance Learning.

Near and far, urban, and rural, by land or by water, upstream or downstream, yet it reaches every household. For the next few months “modules” have reached stardom status, people from every walks of life are talking about it, from your favorite sari-sari store all the way to the halls of shopping malls. People, especially parents (mothers of course) just can’t get enough, they cannot help themselves venting out their sentiments about it. On how they became like students again. It’s like travelling back in time, remembering their elementary and high school lessons, for this will equip them in guiding, helping, and tutoring their respective children. Indeed, it was challenging and at times frustrating for some parents and guardians, for most of the time they cannot anymore recall those simple and foundation of education. Why are the eight sun rays in the Phil Flag? -1 + 2 =? What are the National Sports of the Philippines? Just a few simple and basic questions that you can answer in an instant, 20 or 30 years ago.

Like a larva turning into a butterfly, so as the “modules” evolve into something of beauty and significance. What was considered a burden became before Tatay’s and Nanay’s priceless bonding time with their children, for Lolo’s and Lola’s bonding time with their apos, and at times for kuya’s and Ate’s bonding time with their younger siblings… moments that will be remembered talked about years, decades after this COVID – 19 Pandemic.

Filipinos are enduring and resilient. At times we might be beaten knocked out, but we will rise, stronger than ever. Time and again Filipinos have been fooled, but we will wise up. This pandemic brought us fear, but we resented that fear through s of our family’s love and care. We rejected “Academic Freeze”, but instead we said “Module na”.
References:

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