THE WHAT’S AND HOW’S OF ARTICLE PUBLICATION

by:
Amethel C. Sapala
Teacher I, Balsik National High School

Today almost all teachers are required to submit publications. Their reasons for doing so might be varied. It may be for promotion, for completion of requirements or for simply expression of thoughts. Teachers have the leeway in choosing their topics under the education sun. But, even if there are thousands of topics to discuss, explain and expound on articles, there are also limitations.

One basic factor to consider in writing articles for publication is the topic selection. A teacher may opt to write about teaching profession, strategies, methodologies, professional growth and development among all others. What are topics to avoid?

A writer would have to avoid topics that generally condemns or question the authority, rulings or announcements coming from the bureau. The reason behind this is that these promulgations are well thought of planned before they are released as memoranda or department orders. Hence there is no reason to question the authenticity and veracity of the releases coming from the DepEd Central Office.

Another aspects to consider are school programs and activities that are implemented by the school head. If ever that the activity is not a success, publications are not the proper avenue to retaliate or humiliate the proponents of the said school activities. As the adage goes, “Don’t wash dirty linens in public!” this directly reflects the idea of keeping thing discreet and confidential so as to maintain the dignity of not just the school head but the reputation of the whole school itself. The stain of the school’s name is carried by all school employees and even the whole industry and not just the individual who caused it.
Furthermore, issues and concerns arising from social media about situations of other teachers must not be used. This may aggravate the situation. School personnel that are dwelling on this topic might be accused of obstruction of justice and trial by publicity. If ever that the case is under trial or being prosecuted, no person is allowed to discuss matters in public in the act of influencing others to change positions, stand points or decisions. This is punishable by law according to Presidential Decree 1829.

Other topics that are advised to avoid in publishing articles are those that are political in nature. Political issues, concerns and cases are not appropriate to be published in educational portals such as the DepEd Website.

In the end, publishing articles should, in a way, be seen as a positive, uplifting and inspiring means of informing the masses. This must not be a place where vengeance, anger and hatred is observed. Being professional teachers means performing duties that are for the public and in accordance to the law.

Topics that are too sensitive, degrading and humiliating should be left behind only those that foster passion and pursuance of excellence is accepted. As a final note, the quotation “You don’t bite the hand that feeds you!” sums it all up. The government through the bureau of education provides teachers with the source of living. In essence “the hand that feeds us.” Hence, we don’t fight back as reflected in the lines “we don’t bite.”
References:

