TVL TRACK IS NOT JUST FOR THE ACADEMICALLY CHALLENGED STUDENTS

by:
Mary Grace Mendoza Castro
Teacher III, Pagalanggang National High School

In the website edukasyon.ph, the article presents TVL that if you are really not sure if you will be able to pursue any degree after Senior High or if you want to have an income immediately after graduation, then this track is for you. Even if you are not graduated in college Technical-Vocational-Livelihood track will equip you with job-ready skills in the future.

While this description has the good intentions, I believe this sends a misconstrued idea on Technical, Vocational, and Livelihood (TVL) track in Senior High School. This also promotes the idea that those students who are not bright enough to get admitted to the “elite” Special Science Class (SSC) curriculum, where the future engineers and scientists are supposed to come from, it undermines the potential for academic excellence of students who pursue TVL as a track. It is my strong stand that all individuals and all SHS tracks are created equal, such that I want to strongly declare that all students are also academically equal. They are equals because different students have different learning interests, and I strongly believe that different interests do not mean one interest is more superior than the other and that students who can do better in science and mathematics are intellectually more capable than their counterparts in vocational education. Those categorizations of students are condescending and utterly unacceptable.

TVL track, then, is not just for academically challenged students. TVL track is for everyone: everyone who is interested, everyone who is passionate about it, everyone who is willing to learn. It is not a fallback for students who have been lagging behind academically. TVL offers a comprehensive learning opportunity that would translate to
great economic and professional opportunity in the future. Also, while TVL Track is supposed to prepare senior high school students for employment, we can also say that TVL track prepare SHS students for higher learning, as they can pursue more TVL related specializations in higher education, specially now that higher education is fully subsidized by the Philippine government.

Technical and vocational professionals are rapidly employed in the country. One of the official of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) on Wednesday said 72 out of 100 graduates of technical vocational education and training (TVET) programs land jobs within six months to a year, making true its promise of linking more Filipinos to jobs. Elmer Talavera, Executive Director of the National Institute for Technical Education and Skills Development (NITESD) at TESDA said this is the most recent figure obtained from the agency’s impact evaluation study conducted annually.

Techvoc graduates are actually having more golden opportunities in terms of employment because many technical jobs are readily available. According the Technical Education Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Director General Pastor Z. Guiao, TESDA graduates find jobs at a very short period of time according to an impact evaluation study conducted by the agency.

Imagine if we encourage our TVL students to pursue beyond basic education, this would create more impact to our economy and innovation in technology industries. TVL is not just for the academically challenged, but for everyone who is dreaming for a better future.

Let’s go TVL! Let’s go TLE!

References:

https://www.edukasyon.ph/courses/senior-high-tracks/tvl
Parrocha, A. (2018) 72 out of 100 tech-voc grads get jobs within 6 months: TESDA.