



## DepEd CALABARZON participates in Australian research on SBM

Schools in the region of CALABARZON have been included in Ronaldo Bucud's on-going research on the participation of communities in school management. The research is a requirement for Bucud's Masters at the School of Global Urban and Social Studies of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. .

Using a set of variables determined by the researcher, with the guidance of the Department of Education, Bucud has chosen San Juan National High School from the district of Panukulan and Tulo-Tulo Elementary School from the district of Sariaya, both from the province of Quezon, to participate. The Field Technical Assistance Division of the Regional Office and the Division of Quezon are also included in the study.

The study titled "Community Participation in School Management: Studying the effect of decentralization on the practice of community participation in the school management" aims to determine if the enactment of Republic Act 9155, or the Governance of Basic Education Act has affected community participation in the Philippines.

Bucud will examine interrelated areas, namely the views of the stakeholders in community participation, depth of quality of the participation of the community, and the existing mechanisms and see whether they are working or not to determine the effects of education decentralization.

"Have we actually moved from more traditional ways of participation? Have we graduated from that, moving into other spaces of school based management?" Bucud asked during his discussion at the DepEd CALABARZON Regional Office Conference Room.

Using semi-structured interviews, focus groups discussions, and documents provided by the respondents, the study looks into the role of the School Governing Council, day-to-day work in school managing, and the perspectives of the different respondents on school based management, Bucud was able to identify changes in school management perception and participation.

His data revealed that respondents all viewed that the community's involvement is pertinent in delivering quality education service while the school is essential in improving the community through various programs and activities. His findings also showed that after the enactment of RA 9155, community participation has extended to different areas other than raising funds for the school or simply attending meetings.



The main proponent, Ronaldo Bucud discussing his on-going research at the DepEd CALABARZON Regional Office Conference Room last October 27, 2016.



"External and internal stakeholders have been engaged in school planning either as members of the planning team or participants during consultation workshops,"

Bucud explained.

He adds that external stakeholders have also been involved in developing the school's appearance while students are part of the governing body of the school through enforcing policies and implementing activities.

Bucud also cites the Brigada Eskwela as another example in the changing patterns of community participation.

Through these data gathered, Bucud hopes that his research will provide the necessary information in reviewing existing legal frameworks involving school based management, and also for better dissemination and implementation of policies. He also hopes that this will help educators and stakeholders further engage the community in school management and to continuously rethink strategies to encourage participation.

The research is also being conducted in Region 1. A total of 135 respondents composing of division offices, school heads, and other stakeholders are expected to participate in the study. (Ma. Joan Paula Dino, Public Affairs Unit, DepEd IV-A)

## DepEd Tanauan City Conducts Research Clinic for Teachers

The Department of Education Division of Tanauan City through Planning and Research conducted a one-day Research Clinic for teachers at the National Teachers College last October 26.

The research clinic aimed to intensify the culture of research, provided a continuing

forum on research trends and issues, and showcased conducted research and research proposals in the division. It also helped teachers recognized the importance of research as a tool in developing dynamic leaders and practitioners in the pursuance of better educational outcomes.

Serving as the keynote speaker, Regional EPS for Policy, Planning, and Research Division Lilia A. Ricero discussed the Regional Research Agenda and Research Initiatives and presented a comprehensive orientation on the Basic Education Research Fund (BERF).

EPS-LRMDS Ronald V. Ramilo also gave a presentation titled "The Super Hero in Us - Action Research in the Classroom" and

stressed that action research play a valuable role in the formulation of education policies and encourage more educators to engage in research.

The clinic was also attended by School Research Coordinators and teachers from 60 schools in the said division along with several DepEd Tanauan City officials headed by CID-Chief Dr. Edna U. Mendoza, and SEPS for Planning and Research Maria Liza M. Faustino who gave the overview of the Research Clinic. The Marketing Manager of NTC Batangas Rica Rosales was also present in the event.

The activity ended with various schools sharing and presenting their research. (Anne Jeliene C. Capacia, SDO Tanauan City)



# SDO-Lucena capacitates SHs in Planning System



Thumbs up. SGOD Dr. Epifania F. Carandang, Chief (center) together with the training management team poses after the success of the seminar-workshop.

SDO-Lucena City School Heads were capacitated in Harmonizing the Planning System in Basic Education Republic Act 9155 known as “An Act Instituting a Framework of Governance for Basic Education, Establishing Authority and Accountability, Renaming The Department of Education, Culture and Sports as The Department of Education, and for Other Purposes” at Graceland Estates and Country Club, Tayabas City on Oct. 12 to 14.

The 3-day workshop aimed to enable key personnel from the schools’ division

offices in the preparation of development plans and harmonize education planning process with the national, regional, division, and schools’ levels.

The workshop further reiterated that the department adheres to the principles of Shared Governance, the first of which recognizes that every unit in the education bureaucracy has a particular role, task and responsibility inherent in the office and for which it is principally accountable for outcomes. Next, the process of democratic consultation shall also be observed in the decision-making process at appropriate levels and feedback mechanisms shall be established to ensure coordination and open communication of the central office with the regional, division, and school levels. Followed by how accountability and transparency shall be operationalized in the performance of functions and responsibilities at all levels. And lastly, the communication channels of field offices shall be strengthened to facilitate flow of information and expand linkages with other government agencies, local government units and non-governmental organizations for effective governance.

Furthermore, it is affirmed that, at the division level, the first mandate is “Developing and implementing division education development plans”. These concepts were operationalized in the series of workshops given by Region IV-A



Azalea Gallano, SEPS-Research, and Rolan Aldovino, Planning Officer, receiving their certificate of recognition for sharing their time, talent, and expertise.



CALABARZON, specifically by the Policy, Planning and Research Division.

Given these directive, the Planning and Research Section with SEPS-Research Azalea A. Gallano and Planning Officer Rolan Aldovino, together with the Human Resource Development Section, SGOD, SEPS Rolan Catapang, and Pascual La Rosa Jr. as well as the Curriculum Implementation Division made this Capacity Building Workshop in Harmonizing Planning System in Basic Education possible.

ASDS Dr. Joepi F. Falqueza, Planning Officer Rolan Aldovino, and Gallano facilitated the 3-day activity. (Karina R. Bautista, SEPS, M&E, SDO-Lucena City)



KEEP MOVING. The school heads are alive, alert, awake and enthusiastic during the training.

# Division of Tayabas City lauds teachers

Teaching and non-teaching personnel of the Division of Tayabas City celebrated World Teachers' Day last October 5 at St. Jude Multi-Purpose Hall in Brgy. Isabang.

With the theme "Guro: Kabalikat sa Pagbabago", the event created activities to show teachers how much they are appreciated. These were made possible by the joint efforts of all the people in the Division Office especially Schools Division Superintendent Dr. Catherine P. Talavera, whose unwavering commitment to make a soaring division radiated throughout the activities and ASDS Edwin Paul M. Navarro.

The celebration started with a Eucharistic Celebration. Rev. Fr. Jude Moreno posed challenges to the teachers to use their hands in fulfilling their mission to help their students and pupils become better individuals. He explained that this could be achieved through teaching the children to be reflective, to live and make a living, and to gain and use God's wisdom.

The mass was immediately followed by a program hosted by EPS's Richelle F. Quintero and Sancho Calatrava.

## Speeches of appreciation

The program was graced by several important figures from the city and the division who further inspired the teachers.

SDS Talavera presented a lecture presentation titled *Quality Teachers for Quality Education* where she reiterated that everything she does are all towards the attainment of the Division mission of "soaring high".



Dr. Catherine P. Talavera, OIC-SDS of DepED Tayabas, sings Karen Carpenter's *Yesterday Once More* with Claire Dela Fuente

Acting Vice-Mayor and President of the Federation of Parent-Teachers' Association in the Division Wenda Saberola-De Torres emphasized that teachers have the greatest role in shaping society. She also shared the three kinds of love teachers have: the love for learning, the love for learners, and the love that puts these two together.

Acting City Mayor Hon. Nick Abesamis also commended the effort of the Schools Division Superintendent to give the best for the benefit of all her teachers. He also assured them that the Local Government Unit will always be supportive of the endeavors of the Division.

Vice-Governor Sam Nantes, delivered by his representative, Rio Palayan, also



The catalysts of change for a better version of society

commended the teachers for being the heroes and second parents of the youth, and the school being their second home.

## Recognizing the efforts

The teachers weren't just showered with inspirational talk. Saberola-Torres surprised the teachers by giving them roses, symbolizing the appreciation for the role they play in the lives of the children.

An awarding ceremony also recognized the achievements of the teachers. Awardees were presented with certificates and plaques of recognition and appreciation for their exemplary services and performances.

## Songs of love

Furthermore, the teachers were also serenaded throughout the event.

Selected students of Special Program for the Arts (Music), together with Mr. Jayson Labao rendered an original song composition entitled *Salamat Sa Iyo Guro* (SSIG). The City Division Personnel also showcased their talents through dancing and singing.

However, the highlight of the performances was when Claire Dela Fuente sang together with SDS Talavera.

After the sets of songs, the program ended with a final song, *The Greatest Love*

of All that reminded the teachers not to falter in their commitment to teach the children entrusted to them so that their students can become the best they can be.

Everybody present in the hall: the crew to the guard, the singers to the dancers, the students to the choir, LGU to other stakeholders, the teaching and the non-teaching personnel, the Division chiefs, the ASDS, and SDS and to the rest have played their respective role in being a teacher for a day.

Whether he/she was a leader, a mentor, a guide, a coach, a therapist, a hero. Everybody was truly an agent of change. (Luzviminda Saludares, SDO-Tayabas City)



Dr. Catherine P. Talavera, OIC-SDS with Imelda C. Raymundo, CEPS, sing their hearts out for Tayabasin teachers.

# SDO Lucena City celebrates the National Indigenous Peoples Month

Promoting greater awareness, advocacy, appreciation, and respect for Indigenous Peoples' (IP) community as an integral part of building the Philippine nation's cultural heritage and history has been the core objective of the SDO Lucena's Celebration of the National Peoples Month at a Badjao community in Barangay Barra, Lucena City and in an Aeta community at Barangay Tongko, Tayabas City last October 24 and 25.

This year's theme, "Matatag na Ugnayang DepEd at Katutubong Pamayanan: Saligan ng Makabuluhang Katutubong Edukasyon" highlighted the vital importance of building and strengthening the relationship between IP communities and DepEd Schools as a prerequisite in the sustainable implementation of the IP Education Program.

Various activities and events were featured in order to spread awareness of how diverse the cultures of Sama- Badjao and Aeta

Tribe are.

Division IPED focal person Jaime R. Lacerna discussed the Indigenous Peoples Right Act or IPRA. Meanwhile, Benzar Gadzali, the Badjao Chieftain and Mr. Ronnie Magtibay, the Governor of the Aeta Community, gave an overview of the history of their respective tribe and shared some Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP).

Jefferson Alojado, Principal of Barra Elementary School and Elizabeth Gonda, Head Teacher of



Badjao Families play their traditional game - the Kandong.

Sama-Badjao; while paglalalatag, bitag-making, and tain-making among Aetas.

Furthermore, the exhibit held in their respective communities depicted the rich and diverse culture of the Badjao and Aeta. Interviews with the elders conducted by the teachers also widened DepEd's knowledge and understanding of the ideologies, heritage, and traditions of the Badjao and Aeta.

Barangay officials of Barra headed by Brgy. Captain Amelia Sobreviñas and Brgy. Captain Romel Barot of Brgy. Tongko graced the said event. Pablito Alay and Milagros Lindain, Public School District Supervisors of North also attended the event.

The celebration is also in pursuance of Presidential Proclamation No. 1906, s. 2009 entitled "Declaring the Month of October of Every Year as National Indigenous Peoples Month". (Rey Mark R. Queaño, Education Program Specialist II, SDO-Lucena City)



Mr. Jaime R. Lacerna, SDO Lucena IPED Focal Person discussing the Indigenous Peoples Right Act

Reymar Compound Elementary School, together with the initiative and cooperation of their respective teachers, created different activities.

Dance competition, cooking contest, and palaro ng lahi (Kandong for Badjao and Kadang-Kadang for Aeta) showcased their unique cultural identities. Their culture was also observed during the demonstration of Tambol making among



Mr. Rodrigo Magtibay, the Chieftain of the Aeta tribe during the IKSP gathering.

## TOYOTA donates ₱ 3M for PSCNHS- DEPED Santa Rosa City

A donation worth three million pesos generated by the Toyota Classics concert was awarded by Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation President Satoru Suzuki to Pulong Santa Cruz National High School (PSCNHS) at The Theatre at Solaire last October 27.

The generous award aimed to provide assistance and support for the sustainable development and growth of PSCNHS composing of 1, 746 students and 53 teachers under the leadership of its principal, Dr. Edwinda Talavera. The event was also part of Toyota's continuing commitment to further contribute to community development in the city of Santa Rosa and also a way to give back to the community.

Present also in the event was District 1 Laguna Congresswoman Arlene B. Arcillas, City Vice-Mayor Arnold B. Arcillas, Department of Education CALABARZON Regional Director Diosdado M. San Antonio, Schools Division Superintendent of Santa Rosa City Helen A. Ramos, and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Daisy Z. Miranda.

The concert featured the globally renowned Baltic Neopolis Orchestra from Poland, accompanied by artistic director and

violinist Vasko Vassilev. Musical arrangement was by Singapore-born pianist and composer Pamela Tan Nicholson.

On top of the international musical gala, there were also special guest performances from the Philippines homegrown artists such as the Loboc

Children's Choir, Jed Madela, and Morissette Amon.

The enchanting and meaningful evening of the finest classical performance was a memorable experience and a productive endeavor. (Dr. Anacleto M. Cabigao, Chief, Curriculum Implementation Division)



# Sir Ricky: Defining Success in a World of Conventions

### How do we measure success?

Many have pursued to collect frames of diplomas on their walls. Some have sought to buy what they always wanted. On the other hand, others became contented with chaining power and status in their hands.

Truly in this world, we are defined by what we have gained and what we have achieved. Different walks of life embraced this reality, even educators like us are not exempted.

But please, do spare Sir Ricky.

In his eyes one can see the immensity of his spirit which endured years of living. Yet, that extent is shaped by resilience, marked by struggles, and adorned with strong principles. His voice suggests pure conviction, and the words from his thoughts express such wisdom which cannot be ignored, never to be silenced.

Call him Enrique San Gabriel Cabuyao.

At fifty years old, he already served as an educator for twenty-six years. Indeed, half of his life has been spent as an educator. However, Sir Ricky shows no sign in becoming lenient in a profession requiring will, perseverance, endurance, and compassion all at the same time.

### Man of honor

Throughout the scope of the interview, Sir Ricky always notes that he is not a successful educator.

Yet, more than the stories of academic honors and details of holding higher positions, one can tell that Sir Ricky does not give a care. He has his own brand of triumph, which is not equal to common recognitions.

A father to Neil Darwin Feleo and Nina Philine Ann, and a loving husband to his wife, Mary Ann, Sir Ricky rather described himself as a simple man. According to him, his way of living is the result of how his parents had brought him when he was young.



“Minana ko lang sa mga magulang ko ang pagiging simple. Huwag mong bilhin ang hindi mo kailangan at huwag mong kailanganin ang hindi mo kayang bilhin,” Sir Ricky recalls.

On the contrary, it was not only simplicity that is evident in Sir Ricky's character. Sir is also full of determination as the sole provider in providing food on their table and making ends meet, especially when it comes to his children's education.

He explains, “nag-tritricycle ako, nag-aalaga rin ako ng baboy. I am the only one who's working in the family. Many doubt how [I managed] to send my children to Manila. It's simple. It's because of the simplicity of my life and of my family. I made them understand our situation.”

In the end, all the hardwork pays off. Feleo graduated in University of the Philippines - Los Baños with a degree in Communication while Nina graduated in Arellano University with a degree in Tourism Management.

Expressing his unconditional love to his children, Sir Ricky even currently supports Feleo after his son told him that he wanted to pursue a degree in Legal Management in Far Eastern University. Yet, with still an on-going challenge in sending off a child to a university, he still reminds his son and daughter that no matter where they go, they should always inculcate value of simplicity.

“Sabi ko nga, tayo'y mga simple lang. Gumawa kayo ng buhay ninyo para naman ang buhay naming mag-

asawa ang haharapin namin. At kahit ano man ang nais nilang tahakin, asahan nilang sila'y aking susuportahan,” he said.

In addition, Sir Ricky is also a man of principles and empathy. When he was still young, he became an activist where he was given the chance to feel the pressing needs and hear the dire concerns of the poor. Since then, the activist inside him continued burning.

“I'm still a member of organizations of Association of Concerned Teachers (ACT). Sa kasalukuyan, ako ay isa sa Board of Trustees ng Quezon Public School Teachers Association under Philippine Public School Teachers Association,” Sir Ricky expounded.

### Humble Beginnings

Starting in this field had been rough for Sir Ricky. An amount of courage and a promise of a future made him decide to start teaching in a far flung barangay in Tiaong, Quezon in 1990. When a chance of being nearer to his family became possible, Sir Ricky was then transferred to Brgy. Katigan where he taught in multi-grade classes in 1993.

Yet, he still felt far away from his family as this community is far from the town proper. Again, he further pushed his luck, choosing to teach in East Palale Elementary School in 1996. Finally, in 1999, he was transferred in Tayabas East Central School, where he served as the district Physical Education and Sports Science (PESS) Coordinator. Thereon, he served as a teacher in TECS-III.

In those beginnings, Sir Ricky tried to find a school where he could call home. Instead, the home he encountered were the smiles and the friendships of different teachers, students, and administrators who had been there for him through thick and thin.

And when his son became ill, Sir Ricky vividly remembered those who helped him, whether the support was financial or a boost of morale. Sir Ricky is forever grateful to those men and women who helped his family.

In those pressing times, he felt that he was never alone.

## Change of Heart

When a position for the ALS was offered to Sir Ricky in 2014, he readily accepted it and served as one of its teacher in the service of the citizens in "Laylayan ng Lipunan." The opportunity of being an ALS teacher made him discover his own capabilities as an educator, capabilities which he thought he could never do in his entire teaching life.

It was indeed a sacrifice. But that was never his own, rather he also witnessed the sacrifices of the ALS students in their quest of having an education and a ticket to change their lives.

"Noong ako ay nagturo sa ALS, nadama ko talaga mismo ang mga estudyante ko na hindi nakapag-aral. May ibang 30 years old na. Pinakinggan ko ang dahilan kung bakit hindi sila nakapagtapos ng pag-aaral at ito nga ay dala ng matinding kahirapan," he explained.

He adds, "nang ipaliwanag nila sa akin ito, na ang aking mga estudyante ay may dalawang pamimilian lang. Alin ang mas mahalaga, ang pumasok na kumakalam ang tiyan, o ang nasa bahay ka lang nang hindi makita ng iba ang iyong kahirapan?"

## Power of Dreams

Sir Ricky heard, from his students, the cycle of poverty and the shame that comes with it. However, aside from the silent but screaming pains of his students, it was not the only thing he heard.

"May mga kwento rin sila ng pangarap," Sir Ricky said.

He cites the story of one of his students, Florita Naval, a mother who was a non-reader and only finished first grade in primary school.

"Gaano kasakit sa isang ina kapag nagtatanong sa iyo ang iyong anak na nanay, paano ba magsulat ng kabit-kabit, ano bang basa dito, na siya mismo ay hindi maalam magbasa at sumulat," Sir Ricky recalls, remembering her words when she delivered her speech during their graduation in ALS.

From their first meeting, Sir Ricky knew that he needed to do something for Florita.

"Sa awa ko sa kanya, tiyagaan ko siya ng abakada, na dalhan ng mga

pinaglumaang libro galing sa elementary, writing notebook, sinusulsog niya, sinusulatan niya. "

Through the help of Sir Ricky, Florita managed to learn reading which eventually led her to pass the test and graduate in the ALS program.

"Iba, iba ang pakiramdam. Hindi ko maipaliwanag. Noon nagsasalita siya, nabanggit niya ang pangalan ko. Nagpasalamat siya sa akin at sinabing hindi siya, kasama ang ibang ALS students, bibitaw hanggat kaming mga ALS teachers ay umaalay. Pinangako nilang aabutin nila ang kanilang pangarap," he explained.

## Different path

Sir Ricky thought that being a PESS Coordinator will become the topmost prize of his career as an educator. He, together with the other key personnel in the division, had brought Tayabas in its prime status as the group emerged victorious in different sports competitions, beating nearby towns and delivering student athletes to provincial, regional even in national arenas.

But he was wrong. It was in the Alternative Learning System where he found what he could not find.

"Noong ako'y PESS Coordinator pa, na sampung taong champion ang Tayabas sa district na palaro. I claim na magaling ang PESS Coordinator kaya Tayabas lagi ang champion. Hindi pala."

"Although tagumpay para sa akin iyon, hindi pala iyon ang sukatan. Ang mas sukatan pala ay kapag nakita mo na ang mag-aaral mo ay nagsikap dahil lang sa iyo. Ang isa ko pang tagumpay ay ang magkaroon ang estudyante ko ng pangarap."

Sir Ricky further shared how he sought help from his friends just to feed his students during their meetings, and even gave them the opportunity to expand their knowledge of the world through field trips in Lucena City and other places.

"Noong unang nagkaroon kami ng field trip, naalala kong kumain kami sa isang fastfood restaurant. Tuwang tuwa sila sapagkat ngayon lang sila nakakain ng ganoon at may extra rice pa. Nakakatuwa rin na may ibang nag-uuiwi pa ng kanilang ulam para lamang maipasalubong sa kanilang pamilya."

## The greatest service

Yet, as reality goes, nothing lasts forever. Sir Ricky has to go back to the formal school.

"Medyo malungkot sa akin na babalik na ako sa formal school. Kung bibigyan pa ako ng pagkakataong magturo sa ganun, gugustuhin ko pero syempre utos naman ito ng nakakataas sa atin."

It saddens him that he may not fulfill the wishes of some of his students. However, he only wishes that the teachers will be dedicated to the ALS program.

"Bilang isang guro, salihan mo sila. Ilubog mo ang sarili mo sa kanila. Doon mo makikita ang ganti nila, ang pagmamahal nila."

He also expressed his perspectives on the current educational system. Coming from a background where he readily felt the needs and heard the misgivings of the poor in the rural community, Sir Ricky wishes educators and policy makers to make an effort to eventually see the plight of his students.

With such hardwork and sacrifices, Sir Ricky wishes that teachers will see their students beyond their behaviors in the classroom. Educators ought to know more their children and do whatever they can to see these young minds pursue their dreams.

Indeed, if one may notice, the story of Sir Ricky is short of accomplishments of an ordinary teacher who rose to become a key official in education. Yet, he greatly acknowledges that fact.

"Hindi ako isang successful na guro, hindi ako isang guro na naging supervisor, naging superintendent. Ako'y Teacher I noon, hanggang ngayo'y Teacher I parin. Ang masasabi ko lang na tagumpay ko ay ang mga eskwela ko, iyon aking mga ginapang, at ang matulungan silang makamit ang mga simpleng pangarap nila.

He may fail to rise from the ranks but he had fulfilled the pledge of an educator that not everyone can claim of. Sir Ricky became the key of his students' dreams. At the end of the day, Sir Ricky said that he can sleep soundly every night because he has done his best for his students. Above all, he entrusted his future with the Lord and what shall be of him afterwards.

And that is success enough.  
(Alfonso Mabuting, SDO-Tayabas)