

SCRIBE

SOUTH COTABATO REGISTER AND INFORMATION BULLETIN OF EDUCATIONAL UPDATES



DEPED SOUTH COTABATO:

*Building an Education Community with a **HEART***





Office of the Schools Division Superintendent steps out of the office and journeys to reach the last mile schools.

Despite the difficult travel, it remains determined to attain its goal to build an education community with a HEART.

By keeping the synergy alive among DepEd colleagues, LGU officials and Education stakeholders, it brings more inspiration,

hope and success for our children, for their families, for our communities for South Cotabato, for our country, and for our God.

Every child has the right to education and thus, it becomes our role to make education accessible for all.

Basically, this is the main reason why education communities exist.



ASEC MESSAGE

G.H. S. AMBAT

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Service and Alternative Learning System

My sincerest congratulations to the Schools Division Office of South Cotabato – from the Schools Division Superintendent, to our teachers in formal school and in Alternative Learning System (ALS), the Division and school personnel and information officers, and most especially our learners – on this year's publication of Scribe.

It is common knowledge that South Cotabato is the "Land of Dreamweavers," where the T'boli harness the power of their dreams to craft myriad intricately – almost sacredly – designed T'nalak cloth. Weaving dreams is an integral way of life.

Similarly, education is vital in ensuring that each learner, youth and adult alike, have a dream and a way to realize that dream. As more and more out-of-school youth and adults (OSYAs) begin and continue their basic education through ALS, the importance of the Department of Education's (DepEd) second-chance education program becomes more apparent. This is especially true for our working Dreamweavers.

South Cotabato's dreamweavers and other Filipino dreamers are the reason why we, at DepEd, work hard to improve and strengthen ALS. With the introduction of ALS 2.0, aligned with the K to 12 Basic Education curriculum, we aim for our learners to develop skills that go beyond the basic reading, writing, and counting. We want our learners to acquire the 21st century skills of Information, Media and Technology Skills, Learning and Innovation Skills, Communication Skills, and Life and Career Skills to enable them to propel their dreams further.

I likewise express my gratitude for everyone who makes ALS and quality basic education possible in the Land of Dreamweavers. Thank you for your tireless support despite the challenges. May SCRIBE continue to be the voice of SDO South Cotabato's hard work and dedication to the delivery of quality basic education for all.

Thank you!



EDITOR'S Note:



MA. TERESA HALLEGADO
DIVISION INFORMATION OFFICER

What does Building an Education Community really mean?

How is Building an Education Community done by DepEd Division of South Cotabato?

For DepEd Division of South Cotabato, this means two things done in two ways.

First, creating and providing teaching-learning environment for our school children, who need and have the right to education, regardless of their locations on the map of the world.

Working so hard for the approval of extension and stand-alone schools,

particularly, at the far-flung areas, serve as vivid evidence that SDO South Cotabato has been doing its best to bring closer to the learners an education community that they need.

Second, involving and engaging community as partners of DepEd in providing support and necessary resources – an avenue for a community involvement to serve as an effective driving force for the success of our dear learners.

Active participation of parents, families, and all other internal and external stakeholders have proven the positive impact of the strong

community support on school performance.

So, as member of every community, which do we opt to do? Who, then, should not choose to be an instrument of making a strong connection of community resources and our learners needs that would surely result to high level performances of our schools?

If our children- the young dreamweavers, are raised in an environment where everyone gives value to teaching-learning process- to education, by getting involved and engaged with all sincerity and love for every child, who is the center of an educative process, then, an education community is built with a HEART.



MESSAGE FROM THE SDS

ISAGANI S. DELA CRUZ, CESO IV
Schools Division Superintendent



The State of The Division Address (SODA) is our way of informing our stakeholders, parents, students, teachers, school heads, supervisors, local government officials, private partners and other national agency personnel. We will be gathering them in one area where we could share the status of basic education in the division of South Cotabato. We will

be sharing our successes or best practices and we will also show them our challenges.

In that address, since the crowd will be composed of education stakeholders led by local chief executives such as mayors and governors: so, it will be an opportunity for DepEd South Cotabato to be

able to tap and empower the people.

I always believe that it takes a village to educate a child and, DepEd alone cannot mold one learner because it takes only around eight hours for the child to be in school but the other 16 hours are spent outside of our schools like in their homes. So, the children should be with their parents or in the community where they can be with government officials or even their neighbors. Each of us should have a role in the development of a child. It is an opportunity for us to build an education community – a community that is supportive of the education of every child.

The day for SODA shall be also the time for us to celebrate of World Teachers Day. The address will not speak of the accomplishments of the schools division office alone nor of the superintendent

but an accomplishment of every teacher, every school head, every parent, and every stakeholder who are continuously helping us. It will be coupled with a summit that will serve as an avenue for us to hear from our stakeholders and several sectors. When we group them in at least seven groups, their voices will help us determine what we should do together to improve basic education for our learners in the division of South Cotabato.

SDS's message to the SCRIBE Editorial Board

I am not a writer but I will be part of your audience. As your superintendent, I am very happy of the initiative of our Division Information Officer for coming up with this group because I always believe that members of DepEd family, we need really to inform our Education community of what are happening in the division. We need more information for

every school learner and for every parent so that they will be guided by the different updates that we give them.

First, it is our way also to inform our public – that is our accountability. Since we are a government entity, we have to keep our people informed so that they will be able to see our performance, our accomplishments, and even our challenges.

Our official publication shall also serve as a platform for us to highlight the best practices of every teacher, student or even our stakeholders who are supporting schools. I hope when we come up with the different issues of SCRIBE, our public will be more educated in terms of the right to education. I know that it is the first which is always a difficult one but with the united efforts of all the members of editorial board, I hope that the publication shall also inspire other teachers, and our community to do better, not only in education but in all other aspects of life. Thank you!



OSDS administers caravan

Koronadal City – Office of the Schools Division Superintendent of South Cotabato Division administered caravan in all the municipalities of South Cotabato to extend services among school-based personnel from March 18, 2019 until April 16, 2019.

“OSDS Caravan is an initiative of SDS Isagani Dela Cruz, CESO V to bring the Division closer to its clients which is consistent with our quality policy of passionately pursuing excellence in providing quality service,” Atty. Irelan B. Ditchon emphasized.

According to Budget Officer May Grace T. Dupa, SDS Dela Cruz initiated the activity upon knowing that there were many vacant/unfilled items for teaching positions; Salaries (Payroll) received by the personnel did not reconcile with their step increment; and there was a need to bring the services of the OSDS to the field to let them know that OSDS prioritizes the welfare of the personnel in the field.

Headed by SDS Dela Cruz, the Legal Office, Accounting Unit, Budget Unit, Administrative

Services Unit (Personal Section, Cash Section, Supply Section) Personnel had set up the OSDS Office at the municipalities to cater the school employees' concerns on their salary and benefits, promotion and reclassification, and school MOOE.

“The Caravan was a success for it enabled OSDS to release the school personnel's loyalty pay for the previous years, and to integrate their correct Step Increments in the payroll,” Ms. Dupa declared.

“I am determined that next year, if not this year, the benefits of the personnel in the division of South Cotabato will be received on time and their step increments will be integrated in their salaries within a year; and *gamay na lang nga push*, it will be realized with the help of our Almighty,” the Budget Officer added.

AO IV Arlene Albuna expressed that bringing OSDS services to school-based personnel helped them save their time, money and effort in going to the division office just to ask about their concerns and furthermore, it would address the housekeeping

of employees' records and attain Strategic Objective 11.

-Ma. Teresa Hallegado



“What does it take to educate a child?”

“For DepEd South Cotabato, it takes both school and community with a HEART to educate a child. Hence, in educating the children, we must invest love as we transfer knowledge, skills and right attitude.”

Isagani S. Dela Cruz, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent



Lead HEARTship



Leadership begins with a heart - the power of the heart. Heart power is the strength of any organization. Of all the things that sustain a leader over time, love is the most lasting.

Developing yourself as a leader requires the HEART to care enough to make a difference.

The secret of success is to stay in love. Staying in love gives you the fire to really ignite other people and feel the kind of excitement that helps them to get ahead.

Leadership is an affair of the heart. Love is loyalty, love is teamwork, love respects individual dignity. People feel strong and more committed to their task when we love them from the HEART. The more open a principal in spreading love around, the better it is for students' learning and for teachers' effectiveness. Love them by treating them with equality, fairness and respect. Let's happily embrace change through project HEART. We cannot get extra ordinary things done, without having the heart in it.

Change is constant and school organization must adopt to these forces. In order to remain relevant and effective - STAY IN LOVE. We must love our school, our teachers, our students, and our stakeholders.

- Dr. Arnel Gabuat

“STATE OF THE DIVISION ADDRESS (SODA) CUM EDUCATION SUMMIT AND CONVERGENCE OF STAKEHOLDERS”



A message to all teachers ...

Happy National Teachers' Month Celebration to all those who have chosen to be a teacher! To the neophytes, I would like to challenge you to embrace the culture of being an effective teacher. At first, it is but natural for you to experience some difficulties in disciplining your learners and to be confused on what strategies and approaches to be used in teaching a particular lesson, and how to adjust and cope with the different behaviors of your co teachers and school administrators.

Naturally, you will experience frustrations and failures in fulfilling the tasks entrusted to you because of so many ancillary works assigned to you aside from teaching. Learn to manage your time. Find time to do each task without neglecting the main job we are paid for, and that is to teach our learners. In every trial you encounter along the way, never give up. Everything will be fine. Just be positive in all your dealings.

To you, dear teachers, who have been in the profession all your life, I know you hurdled so many challenges in your job, but you never give up. Even though our time has been devoted in teaching with less time to make sideline business to augment the family income, yet we remain to live a simple life and surprisingly we are able to produce children who are mostly degree holders.

In our profession, we invested so much of our time, talent, dedication, devotion and even money. Our return of investment is seeing our former students being successful in their chosen career. So, fellow teachers, for as long as you are handling our students, catch them in their best moment. Take time to teach them with love, care, and passion for when they grow up, they will remember us being a good teacher. Do not let learners remember you in your worst self. Make memories with your students that when they hear your name in the future, it will bring their lips into smiles. HAPPY TEACHING!

- Hiyasminda F. Diolanto

Journey to Last mile schools ...



SDS Dela Cruz confirms OM Version 1.0 for quality, efficiency in performance

Big smiles with light hearts filled the SDO Conference Room despite the darkening eye bags of the process owners as the Schools Division Superintendent Isagani S. Dela Cruz declared the approval of the Operations Manual (OM) Version 1.0 along with the divisions' journey to ISO 9001:2015 Certification.

In an interview, SDS Dela Cruz said that the Operations Manual Version 1.0 is one of the tools to be able to attain the divisions' aspiration to be the leading-edge in socio-cultural education that produces proficient learners.

"We have to write the different office procedures, different processes that include the quality on how we produce our outputs and even the risks.", he emphasized.

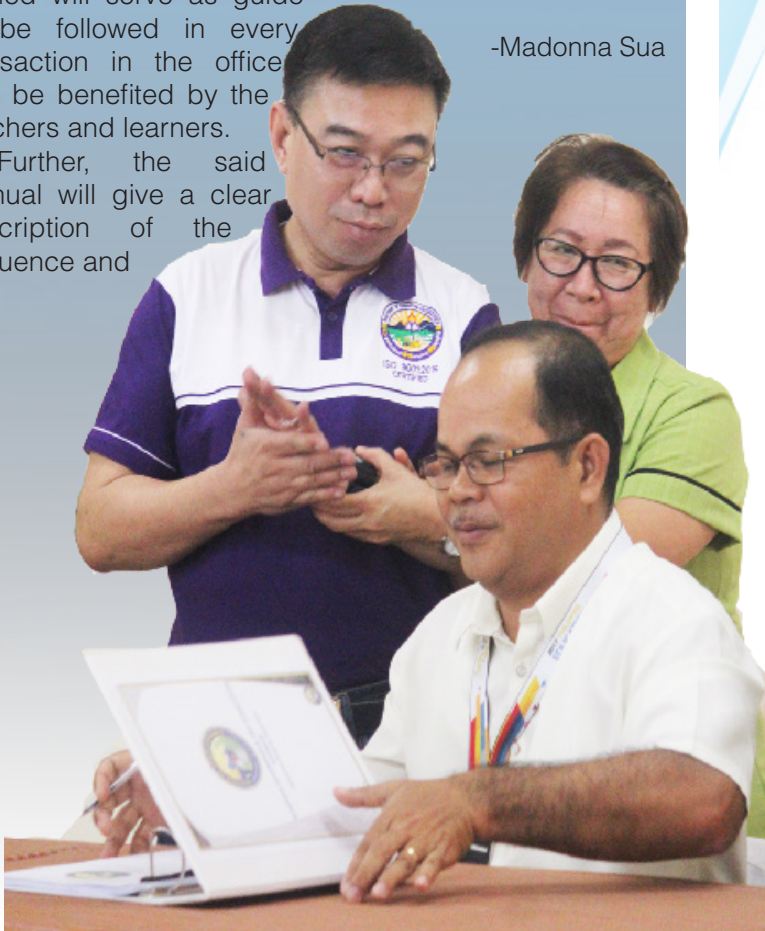
Witnessed by the Regional Director Allan Farnazo, the 36 OMs being signed will serve as guide to be followed in every transaction in the office and be benefited by the teachers and learners.

Further, the said manual will give a clear description of the sequence and

interdependence of tasks and will help to avoid errors especially for someone who is new to the job and at the same time eliminate tasks that are no longer necessary or helpful in many practices.

"With the Operations Manual, our performance review and evaluation will be easier. Targets and accomplishments will be properly measured. With the process narratives, we will have a standard routine in doing the job properly and we can hone our skills on each task to raise our overall performance," SDS Dela Cruz concluded.

-Madonna Sua



RD ALLAN G. FERNAZO, WITH DR. FELY F. MARU, WITNESSING THE SIGNING OF OPERATIONS MANUAL VERSION 1.0 BY SDS ISAGANI S. DELA CRUZ

The ISO Journey



Declaration of the Approved Operations Manual (OM) version 1.0 effective September 3, 2019

Module 6

Seminar-Writeshop on Division Process Management-Defining Standards and Performance Risks and Resource Management

July 22-26, 2019

Module 5

Division Process Management Part II: Writeshop of Operations Manual Part II

July 8-12, 2019

Module 4

Division Process Management Part I: Writeshop of Operations Manual Part I

June 3-7, 2019

Module 3

Capability Building Seminar on Understanding the Organization's Interest Party

May 6-11, 2019

continues ...

Module 10
Understanding the ISO
Standards

September 16-20, 2019

Module 9
Understanding the ISO
Standards

September 2-6, 2019

Module 8
Workshop on Declaration of
Operations Manual v1.0

August 19-23, 2019

Module 7
Seminar on Understanding the
Organization's Process Management
System

August 5-9, 2019

Module 2
Seminar-Workshop on
Understanding and Defining the
Organization's Performance

April 8-12, 2019

Module 1
Team Building Activity
on Understanding and
Defining the Organization
Aspiration, Division Core
Values and Quality Policy

March 11-15, 2019



ASPIRATION

To be the HEART of leading-edge socio-cultural education that produces proficient learners

CORE VALUES

SDO South Cotabato commits to demonstrate High level of professionalism by passionately pursuing Excellence in providing quality service with Advanced innovations in the spirit of Respect and Teamwork.

QUALITY POLICY

We, the passionate stewards of SDO South Cotabato, are committed to delight the learners and stakeholders by providing:

Contextualized Learning Resources, Competent Learning Facilitators and Instructional Leaders, and Equitable Basic Education Support Services.

These are delivered by resilient, service-oriented, and value-driven personnel through quality-assured, technology-based and continually improving systems and processes.

We pledge to adhere to applicable laws, rules and regulations, guided by HEART (Humane, Empowered, Accountable, Responsive, Transparent) governance.

v1.0r0.0effective03/21/2019


ISAGANI S. DELA CRUZ, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

SoCot Div showcases learners' skills, products in SHS Expo 2019

With eagerness and enthusiasm, despite the heavy rain, the Grade 12 students shared and exhibited the result of their two-year learning in Senior High School through varied skills, specializations, products and outputs which filled the Banga gymnasium during the one-day Skills Expo and Jobs Fair cum Career Guidance Advocacy of HEIs, TVIs and SUCs for Grade 12 graduates.

Nail Care, Massage, and Hair Dressing shone in the event as the Best Services

offered during the day which were delivered by learners of Pablo Valencia National High School.

Bar tending, cookery products display, SIP output, leom weaving, and more other stuffs and services were delivered and offered to all spectators.

Along with the activity, a jobs fair was done to provide an opportunity for the graduating students, who intend to work, to be interviewed by the representatives of the different partners and stakeholders within the province.

"In our assessment upon interviewing our students, they truly acquire the potentials of a competitive

employee. Those who will be hired, will be scheduled to work based on their vacant time," Kimberly Benito, EMR representative, said.

It was also mentioned by the DepEd Regional Director Allan G. Farnazo, Ces0 IV, that all Senior High School (SHS) graduates are expected to get a job right after or at most, six months after graduation.

True to the theme, 'Engaging Senior High School Graduates toward Higher Education Opportunity, Employment, and Entrepreneurship,' the conduct of the activity served as a platform for the Grade 12 students to dialogue with representatives of and gain access to the various industries and government offices and to know their needs and requirements in the field of work.

During the event, the representatives of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Region 12 and the Department of Trade and Industry served as guest speakers.

- Rudolf Rendon / Rodel Jay Sotomil

Polomolok to host 2019 Provincial Meet; Targets to pinch the Championship

Polomolok is ready! This sums up the preparations of the Polomolok municipality as the venue for the 2019 Provincial Meet this October.

According to the Municipal PESS Coordinator Benigno Toribio, the municipal Local Government Unit through the Municipal Mayor Honey Lumayag-Matti, had already started the flattening of the oval field.

"All of the activities, venues and billeting quarters will be utilized during the municipal meet so that whatever problems we may encounter, we can already make way before the provincial meet," Toribio said.

Meanwhile, the Polomolok team is aiming to nip the crown this year's sports tournament.

"We are encouraging the coaches and the athletes to give their cooperation, dedication, time and effort and will take the challenge seriously to attain this goal," he added.

- Alex F. Floro



SDO SoCot promotes values of Peace in schools

The South Cotabato Division intensified the practice of peace through different innovations and mechanisms along with its desire of integrating the core values of the department in all schools in the province.

According to the Division Peace Coordinator, Leomel Ledda, school coordinators were encouraged to conduct programs and activities in their respective school where peace is integrated and observed.

"At least 90% of our schools in the whole division practiced peace programs and even made a difference in their simple ways," he explained during an interview by the SCRIBES recently.

The "La-Peace at Papel para sa Maralitang Learners"

that encourages donors of school supplies for the learners; "May Peace kapag Malinis" that incorporates clean-up drive, SWM, and Brigada Eskwela; and "Peace Meal" that upholds potluck system and sharing of food are some of the

division's initiatives.

The accomplishment reports submitted by the schools show that the transformational education activities had lessened the records of bullying, violent actions, destruction of facilities, and absenteeism.

"Kissing of hands to the elders and to persons in authority in school and, saying "I am peace" or "Peace be with you," remind the learners to do good and behave well everyday," Ledda shared.

Vincent Celeste/ Ronel Caligdong



SDOSC capacitates Editorial Board

KORONADAL CITY Center, City of Koronadal, September 4-6. The Schools Division Office of South Cotabato (SDOSC) conducted a three-day Capacity-Building Training-Workshop for South Cotabato Register and Information of Educational Updates (SCRIBE) editorial board at EMR

various conducted programs, projects, and activities which have helped in building a community with a HEART. "I am very happy of the initiative of our Division Information Officer for coming up with this group [editorial board] because I always believe especially

in DepEd that we really need to inform our Education community of what are happening in the division," the SDS Isagani S. Dela Cruz expressed showing his support for the editorial board. With the words of encouragement from SDS Dela Cruz, each member of the editorial board participated for the target success of both print and non-print media. Further, the above mentioned training-workshop is part of the division information initiative to strengthen the information dissemination process along with the division's ISO 9001:2015 certification or its standardization journey.

-Vanessa Vinzon



SoCot welcomes 21 students from Kor City

Palo 19 NHS of Tampak and the Schools Division Office of South Cotabato welcomed the 21 Learners from Marbel 7 Extension School, Koronadal City.

This is the result of collaborative efforts and partnership of two division offices in addressing such concern in helping our learners continue pursuing their dreams.

"Here in the Department of Education, we make it sure that no one will be left behind," stressed by SDS Gildo Mosqueda during his inspirational message.

"We would like to welcome you in the Division of South Cotabato in behalf of SDS Isagani

S. Dela Cruz, CESO V. The whole community is glad to have you to be part of the dreamweavers family," Tyron Jann B. Villanueva, EPS II - Social Mobilization & Networking said.

Parts of the program are the tree planting activity and distribution of school supplies to the learners, courtesy of STI Marbel & Rotaract Club of STI Marbel.

The activity was graced by SDO South Cotabato Social Mobilization Unit, SDO Koronadal City, Municipality of Tampak PSDS, PIC & School Heads.

- Tyron Jann Villanueva



PICTURE BITS OF SDOSC'S BESTS



Polomolok National High School nipped 2nd Place in the 2019 Gawad KALASAG Search for Excellence in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and Humanitarian Assistance Regional Level. The said search is a national initiative of the DRRMC Council conducted every year through the Office of the Civil Defense



Tboli Knoon Band as official representative of the SDOSC in the Regional Talentadong Guro to be held at Cagayan de Oro City on October 4-5 2019.

SDO SoCot strengthens SBM Practices; RO12 recognizes 22 SBM Level III schools

SDO South Cotabato aims to be recognized as the School-Based Management (SBM) System capital of Region XII through empowering district SBM validating teams during the Division Orientation on SBM, Banga National High School, May 30-31.

As a result of this initiative headed by Division SBM Focal Person, Dr. Felly F. Maru and School Management Monitoring Evaluation (SMME) Section lead by Senior Education Program Specialist, Joven Ryan G. Malida, 22 schools were endorsed for the Regional SBM Validation.

"We are looking forward for a new height of SBM Level 3 schools in the division. Our successes before were overwhelming and this was a product of our bold and aggressive campaign for SBM implementation," Dr. Maru said.

Last July 11-26, 2019, all 22 endorsed schools in the division namely; Norala CES, Polonuling CES, Tupi CES, Thomas V. Balayon ES, Bentung ES, Polomolok Creek IS, San Felipe ED, Silway 8 ES, Sulit ES, Teresita ES, Tinongcop ES, New Lambunao IS, Banga NHS, Bukay Pait NHS, Cebuano NHS, Lake Sebu NHS, Norala NHS, Polonuling NHS, Sto. Nino NHS, Upper Klinan NHS and Kablon NHS were validated as Level 3 by the DepEd Regional SBM team.

Meanwhile, Kablon NHS headed by the Head Teacher III Dr. Magdalena Afon, in terms of SBM level of practices was hailed as the most benchmarked school in the division. On the next round of regional validation, 15 more schools will bid for success hoping to hit the level 3 status.

-Ferdinand Esteban/Jett A. Javellana



Photo courtesy: Cristopher T. Frusa, SEPS II

SCOUTING VIRUS SPREADS ANEW



"Do a good turn daily", is the reverberating slogan of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines (BSP) that arouses every senses of a true-blue lover of the worldwide scouting through the World Organization of Scouting Movement (WOSM).

Recently, the BSP Local Councils of South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani and General Santos City joined efforts in the successful conduct of the Advanced Training Courses (ATC) in four scouting sections namely; Kawan, Troop, Outfit and Leaders of Adults.

A total of 135 scouts had tearfully and joyfully survived the exciting, thrilling, puzzling and exhausting but self-fulfilling and self-satisfying training. It was participated in scouting enthusiast from different division with the overwhelming participation of

125 strong scouts from General Santos City Division. wishes to extend his services to deped and the movement.

"Every leader, aspiring to become leader shall undergo the Woodbadge training so that he or she will learn and experience by heart the meaning of humility" says DepEd XII Regional Director Dr. Allan J. Farnazo, CESO IV, and the concurrent Schools Division Superintendent of General Santos City Division during his inspirational message.

Victorino Fuentes, the Chief of Schools Governance and Operations Division (SGOD) of General Santos City Division, a participant in LOA section, was overwhelmed with his experiences during the one week training. In his remarks during the closing program, he fondly admitted that he was fired up with the Woodbadge experience, before the training. He was contemplating of retiring, but after the training, he

The Boy Scouts Organization was founded by Army Colonel Lord Stephenson Robert Baden Powell Smith during the chaotic time in Britain in 18th century. Because of its success in youth reformation and development, the organization has spread like a virus throughout the world.

In SOCCSKSARGEN the scouting movement is once again revitalized and moving forward drastically in terms of Membership, Activity, Training and Advancement (MATA). The scout leaders and the young scouts alike draw their inspiration from RD Farnazo, a 3 three-bead holder with a rank of Assistant Leader Trainer (ALT) and a Silver USA Awardee who declared his unrelenting support to the scouting movement.

- Emilia Binghoy

Teachers' Success Story

BLUE FOLDER

Carlo Jay P. Lara

The blue folder rekindles his distant memory of both struggle and victory, of pain and triumph, and of despair and hope. For him, it was like a star that predetermined his fate and brought him to where he is right now. He looked at it as the fire that ignited something in him and set aflame his life. It was the missing piece of the puzzle, the perfect fit, which would complete his entirety. Little did he know that the same blue folder would serve as his ticket to a whole new world. Little did he know that the same piece of paper would turn his world upside down, and change his entire life for eternity.

January was young when his parents finally urged him to comply the requirements for a teaching position in the Department of Education (DepEd). He was torn between resigning from a private school where he taught for a year and applying for a vacant position in DepEd which is for him, uncertain. With the power of his parents' persuasion, he chose to do the latter. A bit hesitant and unsure, he just found himself composing the application letter and making queries about the required documents. When everything was completely in tacked, he noticed that his compilation lacked something, making it bare. That is when

his co-applicant laughingly said he had missed something very important when he realized he really did miss something—THE BLUE FOLDER. So, he went on a store, bought one, punched a whole, and woooosh! He just submitted his future.

It was not so long after he submitted his folder that he tasted the bitterness of life. Taking the English Proficiency Test was easy. Doing the demonstration teaching was manageable. Undergoing the interview was bearable. He surpassed them all. What brought him torment was that, the private school where he was in, would not approve his resignation. His mind was already set that he was going to be a public school teacher, yet the odds were against him and circumstances turned sour. He prayed day and night, seeking for clarity of His plans. With negative emotions building inside him, he pursued, turning them into a storm of courage. He submitted another resignation letter, now in a folder. After a moment of serious deliberation, he was freed.

Everything was set in motion, and that all he needed to do was wait. For how many long agonizing months of waiting, he grew tired, thinking that he was waiting in vain. Jobless he was, he dodged all the expectations of the people around him and shut himself off. It was not so long when he saw an opportunity to run as an SK Chairman of their barangay. That diverted his feeling of despair and failure into something more significant. He opened his doors and welcomed

a new beginning. But life finds its way in making people cry. Election came, he lost. On that the same day, he did not just lose the election, he lost all hope. All remnants of the election, he kept on a folder.

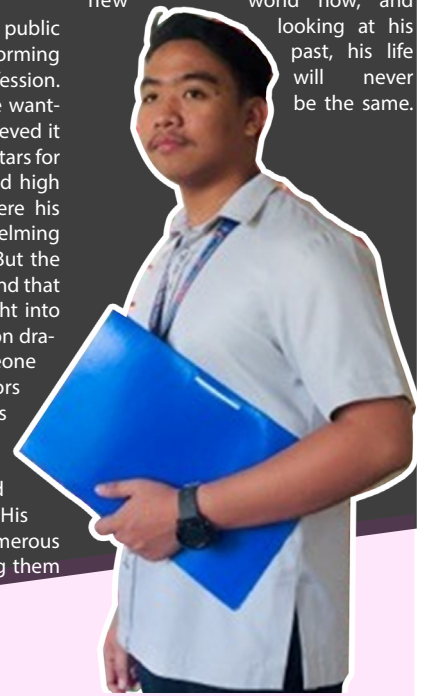
All the colors in his life started to fade. All hope was almost gone. But just like the day, life has its own sunrise and sunset. He accepted this reality of life and learned to live without expectations. It just happened that one day, his sunrise came when he received a text message. It was a message overflowing with hope and victory, saying he made it to the Registry of Qualified Applicants. Finally, his folder made it. His folder triumphed.

Now, he is standing on a public school classroom's platform, performing in the stage of the teaching profession. He thought, it was exactly what he wanted and he was happy for it. He believed it was the fate predetermined by the stars for him. The bigger monthly salary and high social recognition, he thought, were his greatest rewards for all the overwhelming challenges he had went through. But the universe has a bigger gift for him. And that is, the change that teaching brought into his life. The Department of Education dramatically changed him into someone he will never recognize. His superiors taught him humility, to respect one's decision and follow orders without question. Paperworks taught him to value time, to manage priorities and enjoy the tiring tasks that lie ahead. His precious learners taught him numerous life lessons and the greatest among them

is compassion, which is loving unconditionally and the willingness to offer oneself for the good of others.

When asked of what he gained from entering the portals of DepEd, he replied "nothing". He gained nothing and lost many. Yes, he lost many. He lost all his fears. He lost all his doubts. He lost all his insecurities.

The blue folder—the star that predetermined his fate, the fire that set his life aflame and the missing piece of the puzzle. It is, the embodiment of both struggle and victory, of pain and triumph, and of despair and hope. He is in a whole new world now, and looking at his past, his life will never be the same.



South Cotabato DFSSG President: A Triumphant Dreamer

AIM HIGH. DREAM BIG. REACH FOR IT. These statements inspire Kate Richelaine Lamigo every time she takes the carriage ride of life as Grade 12 ABM student of Sto. Niño NHS, Dreamweaver Creative Team (DCT) writer, and Division Federated SSG President.

With the skills and knowledge provided and enhanced by the K to 12 Curriculum, Kate started to grab an opportunity when DCT, the official media arm and creative solution provider tasked to document activities of SDO South Cotabato, opened a door for her to undergo and pass the rigid screening including the on-the-spot writing and interview. She made it to the top three and eventually became one of the official writers of DCT.

Her experience as editor-in-chief of her school publication served as her ladder to reach the national level as an official representative of Region XII after winning First Place in the

Regional DA-DepEd On-the-spot Essay Writing Contest held at Koronadal City representing the Division of South Cotabato. "My school trained me to become who I am right now," she said.

Her essay entitled "Padlock of Battles" emphasizes her view, as young Mindanaoan, on Bangsamoro Organic Law. This qualified her to pass the first stage, phone interview, and second stage of the screening process which finally paved her way to join the 12th National Youth Parliament (NYP) by the National Youth Commission. She said that her four-year experience as SSG Officer had made her confidently undergo and pass such rigorous application process, with more than a thousand applicants across the country. She made it to the final list as official representative of Region XII to NYP at Insular Waterfront Hotel, Davao City.

As DFSSG President, she believes that a true leader knows how to identify problems and make solutions

for the sake of everyone. "Two of my priorities are the Non-reader and the environment. I am in support to SDO South Cotabato's aspiration to be the HEART of the leading-edge socio-cultural education that produces proficient learners."

Kate believes that triumph depends on whether one tries hard or not. "All you have to do is to be a dreamer for you to attain triumph" is her guiding statement that she would like to address to her fellow young dreamweavers of DepEd Division of South Cotabato.

- DIO Ma. Teresa S. Hallegado



#TboliKnoon

HS Tboli learners enjoy 100% LGU subsidy on education

Junior High School students of Tboli municipality benefited from zero Parent Teacher Association (PTA) contribution while elementary pupils were given Php 400 subsidy on their PTA counterparts after the Local Government Unit of Tboli signed Memorandum of Agreement among schools to subsidize parents' school financial obligation through the 'Dunong ay Susi sa Tagumpay' (DST) Program.

The DST program, which started in 2014, was initiated by the LGU-Tboli through Mayor Dibu Tuan which was intensified by the recent declaration of the South Cotabato Provincial Governor Reynaldo Tamayo Jr. on Zero-Collection Policy for the entire public schools of DepEd South Cotabato Division in 2019.

Meanwhile, a students' dormitory was built near T'boli National High School to house high school students from the farthest barangay of Tboli, Barangay Tudok, to lessen the drop-out rate of students from far-flung areas of the municipality.

- Dominador Siloterio

Edukasyon sa Dapit-Hapon

Habi ng bahaghari ng saya ang mga pahina ng buhay ni Han Tohol sa piling ng kanyang minamahal na apo. Isang batang nagbigay lakas sa puso't kaluluwa ng isang lolang t'boli na gawin ang lahat makamit lamang ng pinakamamahal na apo ang rurok ng kanyang pangarap. Naging masaya siya,

Sa loob ng 10 taon, naging kapiling ni Han Tohol ang mga kabundukan sa Lesmolon,

Tboli, South Cotabato. Kayod-kalabaw ang matanda sa pagtatanim ng mga gulay nang sa ganoon ay may perang maiambag sa pag-aaral ng kanyang apo. Naging masigasig siya,

Tiniis ang hapdi ng sikat ng haring araw at malakas na dampin ng hangin sa bundok. Bawat bungkal ng lupa at butil ng mais ay pangarap ang nakapunta para may isang Tboli sa kanyang pamilya ang makapagtapos sa kolehiyo. Nanaginip siya.

Sa paghalik ng pangarap sa tagumpay, hindi maipintang kasiyahan ng matanda nang makita ang apo na buong pusong ipinagmamalaki ang tribong Tboli habang

papaakyat sa entablado ng kolehiyo. Nagkaroon siya ng pag-asa.

Sa edad na 80, naging buo ang panindigan ni Han Tohol na pumasok sa paaralan. Sa isang matandang Tboli, hindi pa huli para kanyang maisulat at maibigkas ang pangalan ng kanyang minamahal na apo. Sa nalalabing pahina ng kanyang buhay, gusto niyang maransan makapasok sa silid-aralan; makasuot ng uniporme; magkaroon ng lapis at papel.; at magkaroon ng bag. Nabuhayan siya ng loob.

Tinatahak ni Han Tohol ang Lemsolon Elementary School sa bayan ng Tboli upang makapag-aral sa Grade 1 sa programang Alternative Delivery Mode. Naging marami ang apo ng matanda. Nabigyan siya ng pagkakataong maranasan ang mudo ng pagkabata. Nagkaroon ng bagong saya ang kanyang buhay sa piling ng mga munting anghel.

Nanumbalik ang kanyang sigla.

Para kay Han Tohol, lahat ay sapat na. Nais niyang imulat na hindi kailanman hadlang ang edad upang matuto. Na hindi kailanman hadlang ang tribo upang maging matagumpay. Para sa matanda, ang edukasyon ang tanging yamang kanyang babaunin sa kabilang buhay.

Sa natitirang ikot ng kanyang orasan, narating na niya ang kasukdulan ng langit ng tagumpay. Kanya ng naisulat at nabigkas ang pangalan ng kanyang apo. Kanya nang maitatala sa aklat ng buhay ang kanyang pangalan.

Lubos ang kanyang pasasalamat kay Sir Schwartz T. Malan-- ang gurong buong pusong tingangap siya sa Grade 1 at nagpursige upang siya'y makapagbasa't matuto. Si Schwartz T. Malan na para kay Han Tohol ay kanyang pinakamamahal na guro at apo.

- John Lawrence Panding/
Joy Rodriguez

#MaanyagBanga

LBP-AGRARIAN OPERATION CENTER SPONSORS ADOPT-A-CLASSROOM AT LAMBA NHS

"A well-structured classroom is one of the reasons to capture the interest of the students to attend classes."

The Land Bank of the Philippines-Agrarian Operation Center, RXII headed by Benjamin B. Santos, sponsors adopt-a-classroom for reading at Lamba National High School, Sitio Matlong, Lamba, Banga, South Cotabato.

The said program aims to provide a conducive classroom for slow and non-readers of the school.

The group initiated to repair and enhance the said room by tiling the floor of the classroom including the comfort room, repainting, installation of curtains and provision of reading materials.

The program initially

started when the group launched a feeding program last year after twenty-six recipient students coming from the different grade levels had been identified as severely wasted and wasted based on the body mass index (BMI).

"I will continue to support the school programs for the students especially to the poorest of the poor," Santos said. "It's just a matter of finding the right people and linkages to make things happen."

The program was realized through the effort of the very supportive and energetic school head of Lamba National High School, Jonathan S. Dela Peña.

- Alex F. Floro

#MabulawanongTampakan

VP Robredo joins AGAPP handing over building to Tampakan CES

Vice President Maria Leonora Robredo participated in the turning over of Aklat Gabay Aruga tungo sa Pag-angat at Pag-asa (AGAPP) Silid Pangarap Building at Tampakan Central Elementary School to accommodate expected additional learners.

The turning over and blessing of AGAPP building last August 14, 2019 was attended by VP Robredo along with AGAPP chairperson, Mr. Gerry Esquivel, AGAPP Trustee, Mr. Andy Ibarra, Hon. Leonardo T. Escobillo, Municipal Mayor of Tampakan, Mr. Danilo Talaban, Mr. Guilbert Olbez, Ms. Gina Bulanhagui, Mr. Teddy Villanueva, Mrs. Ma. Teresa Hallegado, Mrs. Lorna Padua as South Cotabato

division representative, Mrs. Mona Sioco, the principal of Tampakan CES, barangay officials, PTA officials, stakeholders and teachers.

Tampakan Central Elementary School now officially owns the said new building.

"It is indeed an opportunity for the school to finally and formally acquire the new building which can help the learners, teachers and administrators to improve their performances upon having a more comfortable classroom that is conducive to learning." DIO Hallegado.

- Rachel Blanche/
Vanessa Vinzon



Did you know that...

The Philippines observes National Teachers' Month from September 5 to October 5.

In Mindanao, the Tboli Sbu Senior High School is a pioneering culture-based and gender-responsive public senior high school (SHS) serving an indigenous peoples community. Developed in partnership with a leading private university, it is the first SHS to offer an indigenized Technical-Vocational-Livelihood Program, focusing on Sustainable Community Resource Management and harnessing the community's resources, expertise, and cultural heritage to face national and global realities without compromising the integrity of Tboli culture.

The Asian Development Bank - ADB provided the Philippine government a \$300 million loan to develop a senior high school curriculum in 2015, and approved in May 2019 an additional \$300 million loan to support secondary education reforms from 2019 to 2023.

Source: <https://www.adb.org/news/features/making-dreams-come-true-philippines-secondary-education-support-program>

Tboli Sbu SHS pioneers indigenized TVL Program in the country

To conserve the culture and adherence of Indigenous Peoples (IPs), T'boli Sbu Senior High School (SHS) constituted indigenized Technical-Vocational-Livelihood Program which focuses on Sustainable Livelihood Management and Eco-Tourism as first to offer a culture-based and gender responsive public SHS in the country.

Utilizing the community's resources, expertise and cultural heritage, learners were taught with appropriate skills to preserve the knowledge and culture through passing it to younger generation.

Under the Sustainable Livelihood Management, girls were taught on Tnalak Weaving, Leom weaving, embroidery and beads making whereas the boys were

taught on brass casting, and wood carving.

"We were truly benefited from our products since it gave us a good source for a living", Lorna Sugal, 24 and Rizel Ungkal, 26 of T'boli Sbu Senior High School said in chorus.

Developed in partnership with leading private university, the school is the only IP Senior High School in the Philippines corroborated by government as a mainstream institution to serve an indigenous peoples community.

Moreover, the said curriculum is a special program for IPs which faces the national and global realities without compromising the integrity of T'boli culture.

- Mark Y. Garcia



Dugong Guro, Dugong Bayani



LAKE SEBU - Blood donation activity at Lake Sebu CES in coordination with the Philippine Red Cross, April 11, 2019.

#PadayonPolomolok

Amgu-o ES welcomes stakeholders; encourages to plant trees

The Amgu-o Elementary School saluted the different stakeholders for sharing their blessings by conducting outreach programs recently.

Teacher-In-Charge Delfin S. Sua Jr. declared that many private and Non-Government Organization (NGO's) extended help and support to the school.

"We are thankful enough to our stakeholders for choosing our school as recipient of the

outreach programs but we are encouraging them to plant a tree for a lifetime benefit," Sua said.

The "Plant a Tree, Prolong a Life" during the outreach activity was set by the school as a requirement for the visitors in which seedlings of fruit trees were already prepared for planting.

"Food and material things given to us are good but we are looking forward for a lasting benefit a tree can give for the school and the whole community," he added.

Amgu-o ES which started last January 2018, is an extension school of Kalyong Integrated School, Landan, Polomolok, South Cotabato with 65 learners at present who are 100% Indigenous People.

- Efrén B. Ngarde, Jr.



The Eight Wonders in Silway-8 Elementary School: The Unique Brand Name of its SBM Level of Practice



After the third time being evaluated by the division level, after three long years of waiting to be endorsed and validated by the Regional Level, at last, Silway-8 ES was recognized SBM Level 3, last July 12, 2019.

The Regional SBM Validating Team, headed by Dr. Glenn A. Bisnar, together with Dr. Shirley S. Bulosan, Dr. Johnny M. Sumugat, Dr. Regan B. Dagadas, and Mr. Ulysses S. Laruya, rated the SBM Level of Practice of Silway-8 Elementary School, 2.95, one of the highest ratings among the 22 regionally validated schools in the DepEd.

How did Silway-8 ES gained the score? According to Dr. Bisnar, the school's SBM level of practice can be justified by the acronym, SILWAY ES, or "The eight wonders in Silway-8 ES". **S**-Stakeholders support at the Maximum Level; **I**-ICT-Based Instruction Well Implemented;

L-Localized Curriculum; **W**-Workable SMEPA Technology; **A**-ACCESS Related PPAs at its Best (Best GAD Implementer & Teachers Dedication to work and School prestige are Big Contribution to ACCESS); **Y**-Youth Empowerment Through Leadership Training Program; **E**-Excellent in two Aspects: Care for Non-Readers & Research-Based Science Intervention Materials; and **S**-Stakeholders Involvement in Curriculum and Instruction.

With a grateful heart, the school SBM team headed by Jenny Rose M. Inojales with their School Principal, and School Governing Council (SGC) Chairman, Gilbert P. Deatras, received the certificate of recognition and handed it over to the end beneficiary, represented by Apple L. Aquino, the Supreme Pupil Government (SPG) President

- Niño D. Jacobo

SNNHS-BKD TARGETS NATIONAL HALL OF FAME

Sto. Niño National High School (SNNHS) Barkada Kontra Droga (BKD) Program Implementation made its way back to the national tilt after wafting other contenders in the Regional evaluation and targeted its third winning to garner the hall of fame award as the product of hard work, cooperation and the desire of inculcating to the minds of young learners the essence of life away from vices and drug use.

According to Mr. John Mervin S. Porras, BKD Coordinator there will be 5 more sub programs to be launched this school year 2019-2020 to maximize the operation extending to the community as they are encapsulating "Pasada Kontra Droga" on which the tricycle drivers en route to the school will become members, thus their influence will reach every place in the community.

The expansion of its scope became the edge of SNNHS-BKD from other contenders

and the intensified implementation of the said cause was observable to the lives of every SNNHSian marked in each achievement students had bringing the good name of the institution in different levels of competition proving how this program nurture their talents and skills in different fields.

This year, the team had also welcomed more coordinators to oversee the implementation and to man activities that will discover, hone and influence students to practice their skills in creating the totality of their personality living their lives healthy and free to paint good experiences with the help of their teachers.

"Preparation is not that easy, kailangan talaga naming paigtingin pa ang BKD..." Mr. Porras emphasized during the technical assistance given by South Cotabato Division NDEP team headed by Ma'am

Lilibeth Funa who was one of the pioneers of National Drug Education Program (NDEP) and Kid Listo in the said institution which was procreated BKD in recent years.

School Administrators planned to deepen BKD education with the help of teachers' integration to their lessons of different subjects and class advisers must spare time to inject the program's update and explaining the mission and vision of this cause to their class daily will strengthen students' knowledge about it.

"Hindi talaga tayo dapat maging kampante at magbigay ng kumpanya dahil defending champion tayo" repeatedly emphasized by the principal Sir Stephen S. Salazar on meetings held to plan, update and address BKD bottlenecks and came up with a strategic action to surpass the expectation of the national evaluators during the validation of the program after the documents were sent to

the National Dangerous Drugs Board (NDDDB)

Moreover, SNNHS gained support from the local government on how effective the program to the youth as they are molded to become noble citizens of the society living in a healthier way by subsidizing expenses capacitating the facilitators by initiating trainings such as Life Skills Training under the program of NDDDB and developing young facilitators and trainers.

In addition, the documents were already submitted to the national office to evaluate the program implementation for school year 2018-2019 assured to qualify to the top five best schools implementer to be visited by the judges for validation opted to hit its third championship and be declared as the first hall of famer for the said program implementation.

- Lorelie F. Solas

Grand visit to SNNHS Castillon-Weinstein to students: 'your dreams are valid'

Cecile Castillon-Weinstein inspired Alma Mater September 23 bringing the advocacy of Helping Hands Fil-Am Inc a non-profit organization which believed in giving back to community, school, churches and charitable organizations to wit teaching kindness is its mission.

"No matter where you came from, no matter what challenges come your way, I am strong- ako taga Sto. Niño" made her connected to SNNHS students provoking her advocacy of inspiring the young learners to dream big, aim high and reach their goals through the process of hardworking studies which she had undergone and conquered.

Mrs. Weinstein looked-back on how SNNHS molded her personality through the help of her teachers urging the students not to be afraid to confide to them for they are willing to help them conquer life's endeavor as SNNHS educators had done to her "if you need help go to your teachers, ako wala gid ako nag successful kng wala sila".

Moreover she emphasized that focus was the key of her success and that all dreams were valid from all walks of life even the road is more difficult she advised students to relax, step back, recalibrate, and

pursue despite unfulfilled plans because growing up is learning more things.

She emphasized that students can reach to her in times of need and resort to her advices incase they will be in trouble through messaging her on her facebook account as she was an internet savvy who is online to help others especially people from her hometown and alma mater in which she can directly touch their lives and influence their future too.

Castillon-Weinstein was the founder of Give a Book, Give A Chance and was able to donate books to SNNHS in 2016 with the help of other Filipinos in the US and now through the organization she is in gave 10 computer monitors were given as part of her cause giving privilege to her school as the recipient which started her journey as crowned Mrs. FilAm USA.

In addition, she was once crowned "Mutya ng Sto. Niño" 2002 which brought her to be South Cotabato's Mutya ng Turismo 2003 the last in record among Sto. Niño ladies who bagged the title in higher competition and continued her journey to international stage conquering other contenders for the title of Mrs. Philippine-America 2019.

- Lorelie F. Solas



mga groceries. Sa unang tingin, hindi mo makikila ang batang noo'y magulo ang buhok at lukot ang uniporme dahil sa malaking pagbabagong naidulot ng mga tulong at suporta ng mga kaakibat ng SNCS sa pagbibigay ng dekalidad na edukasyon at mga tulong sa mga mag-aaral gaya ni Princess. Si Princess ay isa lamang sa maraming batang Pilipinong nagpapatunay na sa bagong panuruang taon may bagong pag-asa.

- Bert Ceazar A. Castillo

BAGONG TAONG PANURUAN, BAGONG PAG-ASA

Sa pagpasok ng panuruang taong 2019 - 2020, iyong mapapansin ang masisiglang kabataan papasok sa Mababang Paaralan ng Sto. Niño Sentral. Sa pangkat ng

mga batang nagkakagulo at nagpapalitan ng kuwento tungkol sa kanilang bagong bag at kagamitan ay iyong mapapansin ang batang si Princess Aizze De Arce, tahimik at nakaupo lang sa gilid ng silid. Nang lapitan ng kanyang guro, agad niyang napansin ang tsinelas ni Princess na tila bang alam mong pinaglumaan na ngunit patuloy parin nitong ginagamit. Isa pang umagaw sa kanyang pansin ay ang magulo nitong buhok at lukot nitong uniporme.

Isa sa mga layunin ng Kagawaran ng

Edukasyon ay ang mabigyan ang bawat bata ng oportunidad na matulungan at matutunag mahalin ang kanilang mga sarili. Kaya agad namang binigyang pansin ni Gng. Eden T. Biñas bilang gurong tagapayo ang mga pangangailangan ni Princess sa pamamagitan ng pagbibigay ng sapatos. Agad niya namang itong ipinost sa facebook upang mas dumami pa ang magppapaabot ng kanilang tulong at suporta.

Sa adhikaing matulungan si Princess, agad namang bumuhos ang tulong sa kanya tulad ng mga bagong uniporme, sapatos, damit at



#KasadyaSurallah

TUNGKOD

Tungkod is a film about a mother who is visually impaired and who strives and sells vegetables to sustain the needs of her son. A mother who is hoping to find a stable income with the programs being offered by the Department of Trade and Industry, she finds a safe place where she can be safe and stable, where she can weave the dreams of her son.

Libertad NHS Film "Tungkod" champions the DTI Region 12 Short Film competition.

#MayadNgaNorala

Outstanding Teacher to receive Gintong parangal



Joenary Dologmanding Silao of Norala CES will receive Ambassador Antonio L. Cabangon Chua - Gintong parangal para sa Edukasyon award on October 3, 2019 at Bulwagan ng Karunungan, DepEd Central Office, Pasig City for his outstanding work accomplishments.

- Angelie Joy Gialudun

Education Against All Odds

What happens when one is situated in the barren portions of life? Is there a chance to foster and grow? How far would one go in order to get out of the miserable desert of this world?

Learn from Kimberly Talabang, a 21 year old Blaan from Acmonan, Tupi, South Cotabato, who, despite all the bitterness in life, decided to pursue her dreams. Given her age, she is currently a grade six pupil at Acmonan Elementary School Kafok Extension. Too mature as she is to be in her current grade level, she is too young to be a mother of one. Being a grade six pupil at the age of 21 and being a mother at a very young age are only some of the burdens in life that Kimberly have to carry in her shoulders.

What led Kimberly to her present situation are her remnants of miserable past. At the age of 12, she started schooling as a Grade 1 pupil but unfortunately didn't finish the school year because of the tragedy brought about by the demise of her father. At a very young age, she decided to work as a maid. She was promised to be sent to school in exchange of her labor but sadly, it all turned out to be a lie. Her exhausting labor was never paid with what was promised.

The sun shone in Kimberly's dark days. A pastor from a church kindly adopted her and helped Kimberly in her studies. The young girl was once filled again with vigor to study. For how many months, she happily lived the life she wanted. But days of comfort and joy did not last long for life found its way in bringing bitterness to the young lad. Due to the belief of her fellow Blaan that girls who are in puberty are not allowed to stay in someone else's house, her mother took her back home.

Her journey in education continued. She took up non-formal education under the missionaries in their place. She learned the basics such as reading, writing, and arithmetic. Students in the non-formal education like Kimberly, did not undergo different grade levels in the program. They were just simply taught of the basic skills.

Though in a non-formal education program, Kimberly was still learning. However, her journey towards education was once again hindered by inevitable circumstances. She was 18 when she stopped going to school. It was because her mother and relatives forcedly asked her to contribute a dowry to her family. There is no other way that women in their tribe can acquire dowry but through marriage. So, Kimberly was sent off by her mother for marriage. She had no choice for if she refused, her family sworn to disown her. Choking with all her sadness and hatred, Kimberly was forced to marry a 22 year old man.

It was not so long after their marriage that Kimberly was pregnant with her first child. Still eager to pursue her education, she enrolled in the Alternative Learning System (ALS) and continued studying. However, she stopped going to school when she gave birth to her daughter.

Thirsty for knowledge, she once again enrolled in the ALS program in Tupi Central Elementary School. While studying, she also worked as a housekeeper. Another responsibility came into her life when another child was born of her. She was 21 by that time.

Many would wonder where Kimberly takes all her courage to pursue her dreams. When asked of her inspiration, she said, "Damo man ko nakita nga mga tao ma'am nag-agi sa kabudlay pero naka graduate gihapon. Nakaya man nila. Ti kayahon ko pud e para makagrade lang". From the words of Kimberly, it is clear that those people who struggled like her are her inspiration.

It also came to Kimberly's life that she and her husband decided to separate. Her husband accused her of having an intimate relationship with her classmate which Kimberly emphasized to be untrue. In tough times like this, Kimberly said, "Nagapray lang gid ko sa Ginoo nga malampasan ko lang gid tanan kay gusto ko gid makatapos eskwela".

Currently, Kimberly stays with her siblings and continues her journey towards education. She enjoys participating in class discussions. Kimberly brings with her, her youngest child to school, hanging a "malong" to serve as a hammock where she tucks her baby in. If her baby wakes up during class, her classmates would help her in taking care of the baby. When asked of the difficulty she is facing in bringing her child to school, she replied, z"Amu gid na basta gusto mo mag eskwela, maningkamot ka gid".

Kimberly plans to take an exam in the ALS program after graduating from the elementary. She dreams to become a teacher someday hoping to educate people like her.

Kimberly's story proves true that a flower, no matter what soil it is planted in, would always find a way to grow and bloom. Nothing can stop a person from fostering and thriving when one is persistent enough to fight against the overwhelming tests of life.

- Erve Gay Ochavilla

A Journey unfolds

Hiking along a ragged terrain....skipping across the overflowing stream...walking under the heat of the sun during noon...getting soaked in the rain in the afternoon.

These were the usual school days of the learners aged five years old and above of Sitio Tinago and Sitio Busay who used to go to school on their empty stomachs. They were left with no choice but to attend their classes despite the hardships because young as they may be, they believe that only education can change their lives for the better.

Andrea Malindan is a picture of a determined learner of Sitio Tinago. He believes he can have a better chance in life than his parents and other residents who have not gone to school. He is a 10-year-old grade four learner known as "Bakang" because of his inborn limb deformity making it doubly difficult for him to traverse the rocky and jagged road of a far flung Sitio Tinago to the nearest school.

Most of the days, he needed to walk by foot to Cebuano Elementary School, which is 5 kilometres away from home. During rainy days, he

needed to cross flooded river and get soaked in the rain just to reach school as early as possible.

Bakang, represents the Indigenous People (IP) learners who hunger and thirst for the glorious promise of tomorrow. Everyday Bakang is always accompanied by his younger siblings in going to school, walking by foot and reached their learning institution at around 7am. Despite his deformity, Bakang is a bubbly learner. He is always eager to learn and very compassionate.

Destiny has its own way of making things possible when there seems to be no hope. It was never planned nor dreamed of at that certain moment. One of the thrusts and programs of the Department of Education is to bring the school to where the learners are. In adherence to the said program we were compelled to decide and accept the challenge of establishing an extension school purposely to cater the learners in that far-flung sitio.

August 1, 2018 we formally opened Cebuano ES-Mambusong II Extension, having Kinder 2 to Grade Three learners as our pioneering clientele. Being in an IP school

with almost all learners were underprivileged, we established linkages with different sectors and stakeholders who served as instrument in providing our learners their basic needs. School supplies and other materials for the learners to continuously learn and prepare themselves for greater responsibility in the future were provided.

Help always comes on time and among our partners who helped us in providing the basic needs of our learners and even them food packs and even groceries were South East Asian Institute of Technology, Inc., Tupi Municipal Police Station, and Quantum Academy, Inc.

Our journey was one of a kind. It was a rough and long journey but with the presence of our dear partners who choose us as their adopted school, we will make it to higher heights. The public, private and different GO and NGO's presence in the lives of every Juan is priceless. "Bakang", his siblings and friends will always be a picture of happy children. Our dreams will do come true. It may not happen overnight but with sacrifices, determination and faith everything will fall into place.

- Nomie D. Valencia / Raffie B. Bautista



1, 591 ALS Learners surpass Accreditation and Equivalency Test for higher ed

Out of 2,182 takers, 1591 Alternative Learning System (ALS) learners of the DepEd Division of South Cotabato passed the Accreditation and Equivalency (A & E) Test given by the Bureau of Education Assessment (BEA) to qualify for college or Senior High School.

A total of 1539

completers, 52 Elementary and 1487 Secondary confirmed graduates by the department, composed the 100% passers who took the said test in March 2019 in Polomolok Central and Surallah Central Elementary Schools.

Based on DepEd Memorandum No.76 ,s.2018

and DepEd Memorandum No.027,s.2018, a completer of ALS under the old basic education curriculum prior to the implementation of the SHS in K to 12, High School Graduate is eligible for admission to College/ University, subject to the policies and requirement of the accepting Higher

Education Institution and skills development training programs or an option to take Senior High School (SHS) education and enroll in public SHS or in a recognized private school offering SHS, subject to the latter's admission requirements.

-Marianette Barrera

Batang-Tantangan, Bayani ng Kinabukasan!



Sa panahong binabalot ang mundo ng gulo at paninibugho...sa panahong ang mali ay nagiging tama sa kumakalam na sikmura...sa panahong ang mga munting bisig ay pasan na ang daigdig...sa panahong ang tamang pag-uugali ay hindi na ipanagbubunyi...sa isang batang-Pilipinong saksi sa makabagong panahon, may puso pa bang dalisay at dakila?

Sa gitna ng dilim ng pag-aalalahaning ay buong tapang na bubuhayin ng Tantangan North District sa pangunguna ni Cng. Reynita T. Marcelino ang puso't kaluluwa ng mga batang mag-sililbing bayani ng kasalukuyang panahon. Hindi man taglay ang lakas at kapangyarihan, ngunit kalasag ng mga ito ang kagandahang asal at determinasyon sa buhay. Tangang pananampalataya sa Lumikha, galing at talino, ating kilalanin ang mga Batang-Bayani ng Tantangan.

Batang-Tangan- Angat Yan!
Naniniwala ang mga mag-aaral ng Tantangan Central Elementary School, na bilang sentro na pagkatuto, nasa kanilang mga kamay ang lahat ng oportunidad upang iangat ang kanilang kakayahan.

Batang-Dumadalig, Pag-aaral ang Hilig!
Bilang SBM Level 3 na paaralan nakasentro sa pagkamit ng kalidad na edukasyon ang mga mag-aaral ng Dumadalig Integrated School at buong-pusong niniwala na sa edukasyon sila ay aahon sa kumunoy ng kahirapan.

Batang-Luayan, Hangad ay Karunungan!
Binubuo man ng iba't ibang tribo ang Luayan Elementary School ay ipinagdiriwang nito ang kanilang pagkakaiba-iba upang sama-samang makamtan ang dekalidad na dunong na siyang tutulong upang marating ang tugatag ng kanilang mga pangarap.

Batang-New Cuyapo, Hindi Susuko!
Sa mga pagsubok na dumarating na mga mag-aaral ng New Cuyapo Elementary School ay hindi kailan man magpapatinag at susuko sa laban ng bu-

hay dahil sa tapang at talinong taglay.

Batang-Mangilala, Sa Sarili May Tiwala!

Hindi man isinilang sa ginintuang kutsara, may angking-tapang at tiwala sa sarili ang mga mag-aaral ng Mangilala Integrated School na sa kabila ng katayuan sa buhay ay makakamit ang matamis na tagumpay.

Batang-Tanting, Sa Disiplina at Galing Nagningning!

Taglay ang disiplina at pagyakap sa relihiyong Muslim kampante ang mag-aaral ng Upper Tantangan Integrated School na sa tamang pag-uugali ang kinang ng magandang kapalaran ay nakakubli.

Batang-Tacub, Matatag ang Loob!

Ipinagmamalaki ng mga mag-aaral ng Tacub Integrated School ang ganda ng kanilang

kulturang Blaan at buo ang loob upang harapin ang hamon ng buhay yakap ang tribong kinamulan!

Batang-Jose, Hindi Pahunuli!

Sa tiwala at pagpupursige tiyak na hindi magpapahuli ang mga mag-aaral ng Jose P. Lim Elementary School. Sa ambag na tulong at dunong ng mga nilalang na may ginintuang kalooban, sa laro ng buhay tiyak sila'y may laban!

Batang-Magon, Pag-on!

Yakap ang paniniwala sa sarili, matatag ang kaluluwa nga mga mag-aaral ng Magon Elementary School na hindi maaninag ang kanilang tapang upang harapin ang mga daratal na pagsubok sa buhay.

Batang-Talambongan, Maninendeg!

Sa malayong kabukiran man

nananahan, abot-kamay naman ng mga mag-aaral ng Talam-bongan Elementary School ang pagkamit sa alapaap ng kanilang mga pangarap dahil sa lakas ng loob, tatag ng katawan at pusong determinado.

Hindi na kailangan ng mga bayaning magtatangol sa bayan at kinabukasan. Sa panahon ngayong higit kailangan buhayin ang pagkabayani sa puso at kaluluwa ng mga kabataan. Mga bayaning ipanagbubunyi ang dakilang gawa na may angking talino, wastong pag-uugali at pusong-totoo. Sa bayan ng Tantangan, bayani ang mga kabataan!

-John Lawrence A. Panding/
Elenita G. Ninian

#WowTupi

FROM RAGS TO NC-II HOLDER

Dreams, aspirations, and hopes depend on the sacrifices and efforts one has to exert. There are different stages of human's life and the most essential for a person is the stage when he or she engages in school as a student. Despite of the struggles, troubles, and conflicts with the family especially when his parents got separated and led to unsure taste of education, he did not look at it as hindrances instead, he considered them as his inspirations and motivation to fulfill his dreams in life.

Jessie Tolentino Timbal is a 19 year old learner of Emiliano P. Baquial National High School taking Technical-Vocational-Livelihood track. He is presently living at Sitio Maunlad, Bololmala, Tupi, South Cotabato which is approximately 3.5 kilometers from the school. His slippers or shoes are his only means of transportation in coming to school.

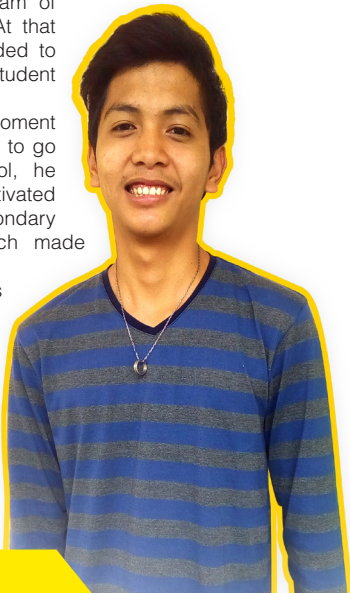
At his very young age, since elementary days until his secondary years, he was exposed to heavy workloads so as to help his siblings in having

foods on their table which let him think that success in education is not intended for him. In fact, he came to a point when he had not prioritized his education anymore for he had to spend most of his time in work. He was once working in a bus terminal where he had to spend 9 hours a day just to render service to the people as a vendor, laborer, dishwasher, and server. One day while he was working, the reality banged him upon seeing a group of young individuals wearing their school uniform and that made him dream of wearing one. At that point, he decided to become a student once more.

From the moment Jessie decided to go back to school, he had been motivated to finish his secondary education which made him reach the success he has with Senior High School at present. He is inspired to finish his studies because of the hardships

and efforts he utilizes just to arrive in school and attend his classes. This time, he is living with his elder sister. Having her own family to support, his sister cannot afford to send him to school so Jessie has to work part time so as to support his education for they are dealing with financial difficulties and conflicts in their family. He is now a National Certificate II holder both in Food and Beverages Services and Bread and Pastry Production.

- Edzelle O. Digo/
Vanessa Vinzon



LAKBAY TURO NG BAYANING GURO

Itinuturing ang isang tao bilang bayani tuwing may naiaalay siya para sa ikauunlad ng bansa at para sa pagbabago. Karamihan sa mga bayani ay inaala tuwing ika-26 ng Agosto, mga namatay sa pakikidigma noong panahon ng Kastila, Amerikano't Hapon. Kabilang dito sina Rizal, Bonifacio, Mabini, Del Pilar at marami pang iba. Ngunit ang hindi natin naaalala ay ang magpasalamat sa mga bayaning buhay at patuloy na gumagabay sa atin sa araw-araw.

Sa kabila ng libreng matrikula sa pampublikong paaralan, lahat nga ba ay nakakapagtapos sa kanilang pag-aaral? Hindi lingid sa kaalaman mo na maraming estudyante ang tumitigil sa eskwela, hindi ba? Sila iyong tinatawag na Student at Risk of Dropping Out (SARDO) o di kaya'y Out of School Youth (OSY). Batay sa report ng London based Child Aid Agency na "Save the Children" nasa higit isang milyong batang Pilipino ang hindi pumapasok sa eskwela, bagamat mababa ito kumpara sa nakaraang dalawang taon na nasa 3 milyong bilang.

Ayon sa DepEd karamihan sa mga rason sa pagtigil ng estudyante sa kanilang pag-aaral ay ang pagtulog sa gawain o paghahapuhay ng mga magulang dala ng labis na kahirapan. Isa rin sa mga rason ay ang maagang pag-aasawa.

Tinituro ring dahilan ang mahinang pangangatwain sanhi ng malnutrition, paghihikahos, at matinding problema sa pamilya gaya ng paghihiwalay ng mga magulang kung saan lubhang naapektuhan ang bawat bata.

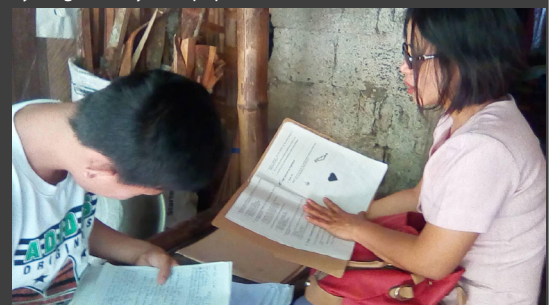
Hindi maipagkakaila na kahit saan mang pampublikong paaralan ay hindi mawawala ang tumataas na bilang nga SARDO at OSY. Kaya naman bilang tugon sa nasabing suliranin, ikinasa ng Tupi National High School ang "Mobile Teaching" na pinangungunahan nang mga nagpipitagang guro na sina Gng. Aileen H. Barrientos at Mary Grace Del Pilar. Ang programang ito ay maituturing na Alternative Delivery Mode na naglalayong tuntunin ang mga SARDO at OSY at akaying bumalik sa pag-aaral.

Sa paglaki ng panganib ng mga batang tumigil na sa pag-aaral, ginawa silang instrumento para ipagpatuloy ang nasimulan. Sa kanilang pagmamalasakit ay naglalakbay sila papunta

sa mga baryo at sitio kung saan mahirap ng abutin ng kalidad na edukasyon. Sa kanilang pagpupursige ay sinusubukan nilang itatak sa murang isip ng mga kabataan na mayroong nagmamalasakit at handang tumulong sa kabila ng hirap, panganib, at marami pang balakid. Mayroon silang karamay. Mayroong handang maglakbay ng napakalayo maabot lamang ang lugar na may kalayaan sa kabihasan. Mayroong mga taong handang magsakripisyo para sa kanilang pagkatuto.

Tunay nga, sila ay mga bayani. Hindi man namatay, hindi man humahawak ng baril o pumupunit ng sedula sila ay lumalaban. Nilalaban ang banta ng kamangmangan sa mga kabataan na sinabi ngang pag-asa ng bayan. Tunay nga na sila ay mga bayani. Bayani ng makabagong henerasyon na ang panlaban ay pluma, papel, libro, panahon at lakas ng loob. Bayaning nanumpa na makapagturo at ialay ang buhay para sa mga kabataan na uhaw sa kaalaman.

- Geraldine Mae A. Pamintuan



SCRIBE: The Journey Towards Service with a Heart

When two stars collide, a supernova is born. When tectonic plates merge, a mountain rises. When threads are woven as one, a fabric is made. What happens when a group of people possessing varied artistic prowess converge? What happens when teacher journalists with a heart unite for one common goal? It is when magic happens. It is when SCRIBE is born.

The South Cotabato Register and Information Bulletin of Educational Updates also known as SCRIBE is the official publication of the Division of South Cotabato. The creation of SCRIBE is part of South Cotabato Division's journey in the ISO (International Organization for Standardization) which is geared towards showcasing the Department of Education's success stories, best practices, programs, projects, and accomplishments.

Upholding its motto "Serbisyong May Puso, Mula sa Puso, Para sa Batang Dreamweaver," SCRIBE serves as the Division's mechanism in widespread dissemination of information through varied platforms such as print and non-print. It is responsible for making known to all individuals of South Cotabato the current state and endeavors of the Division Office.

The creation of SCRIBE did not just happen as a mere flicker of light. It began its journey with the accep-

ance of applications for editorial staff positions from school and division personnel. Those who were qualified made it to the list of the SCRIBE Editorial Board who then became the people working behind the Division's Official Publication.

The editorial board is composed of News, Feature, and Literary Editors, Cartoonists, Layout and Graphic Artists, Photojournalists, Videographers, and Broadcasters. Division Information Officer Ma. Teresa S. Hallegado leads the team as the Editor-in-Chief together with Dominador C. Silotero as the Associate Editor for print and broadcast and Vince Celeste as the Associate Editors for non-print and social media.

Finally complete, the SCRIBE Editorial Board began its journey in serving with a heart

by working on the first release of South Cotabato Division's magazine. This allowed the SCRIBE members to collaboratively work on the Division's magazine as well as deliberate on matters with regards to the function of SCRIBE.

Just like a supernova, SCRIBE will shine and reach with its rays the people of South Cotabato Division. Just like a mountain, SCRIBE will stand tall and make known to all that the office of South Cotabato Division serves genuinely with a heart. Just like a fabric, SCRIBE will showcase the interwoven colors of South

Cotabato intensified by the Division Office's effort in providing quality education. SCRIBE was born and its journey in providing "Serbisyong May Puso, Mula sa Puso, Para Batang Dreamweavers" begins.

- Carlo Jay P. Lara





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