

# **SYNTHESIS**

by

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## **INTRODUCTION**

**AS WE CLOSE YET ANOTHER CHAPTER IN THE RECORDS OF OUR PHILIPPINE SCHOOLS OVERSEAS, ONE IS LEFT WITH A FEELING OF “MAGIS” – OR WANTING “MORE” AND DOING BETTER! THIS IS WHAT CAN BE PROUDLY SAID OF ACADEME: WE ARE ALWAYS IN SEARCH OF EXCELLENCE...FOR OURSELVES AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR STUDENTS.**

**AT THE END OF CONFERENCING SUCH AS OURS, WE REALIZE THAT ONE CAN NEVER HAVE ENOUGH TIME, ENERGY AND RESOURCES IN THIS EDUCATIONAL MISSION WHERE “DOING GOOD AND DOING WELL” ARE IMPERATIVES. AND YET, EVEN WITH OUR LIMITATIONS, AND WITH THE SUPPORT OF OUR PSO ADMINISTRATORS, OUR SPONSORS AND OUR PARTNERS – IT SEEMS SO MUCH HAS BEEN DONE.**

**SESSION #I – THE PSO EXPERIENCES SHARED BY THE PRINCIPALS OF PS DOHA, PHILIPPINE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ABU DHABI AND PHILIPPINE SCHOOL DUBAI – CANDIDLY PUT ACROSS THE MANY CHALLENGES WE FACE IN UNDERTAKING A PARADIGM SHIFT IN OUR TEACHING METHODOLOGIES. HOWEVER, THIS PROVES THE TRUISM THAT A JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES BEGINS WITH A SINGLE STEP. AND THE PATH IS NEVER STRAIGHT NOR SMOOTH.**

**SESSION II – THE XIAMEN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL’S JOURNEY TOWARDS THE ATTAINMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM ACCREDITATION INDEED BEGAN WITH THAT ONE TRIGGERING MOMENT -- THE CALL FOR A SAFE HAVEN FOR THE KIDNAP-PRONE FILIPINO-CHINESE COMMUNITY IN THE 1990s. BUT MORE SIGNIFICANT THAN THE HURDLE TO BE KNOWN AS AN “IB” SCHOOL IS THE FACT THAT THEIR SUCCESS HAS BEEN ATTAINED THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF AN ALL-FILIPINO FACULTY AND DRIVEN STAKEHOLDERS.**

**SESSION III – OUR EXPERT CHILD PSYCHOLOGIST GROUNDED OUR PUSH AND PULL TOWARDS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE BY CALLING ATTENTION TO THE NEED TO ADDRESS TOTAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT. THAT THE PRECIOUS CHILD, CAN EITHER BE A CUTE INTELLIGENT AND PRECOCIOUS CHILD WHO CAN ALSO BE THE OVERPOWERING CHILD -- NOT ONLY CALLS FOR INSIGHTFUL SURROGATE PARENTING BY PSO TEACHERS IN THE FRONTLINES**

**OF THEIR SECOND HOME, BUT ALSO FOCUSES OUR ATTENTION ON THE EQUALLY IMPORTANT, IF NOT MOST IMPORTANT, NEED FOR COUNSELING OF AND BY PARENTS THEMSELVES. BALANCING THUS THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AND THEIR CORRESPONDING RESPONSIBILITIES APPLIES AS WELL TO THE ENTIRE FAMILY UNIT. THE STRESSFUL CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND RESIDENCE IN A FOREIGN LAND AND THEIR IMPACT ON FAMILY VALUES AND RELATIONSHIPS ARE ADD-ONS TO THE SOCIAL COSTS OF MIGRATION. THIS HAS OPENED THE DOOR TO A MOST RELEVANT COMPARATIVE STUDY THAT SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN ON THE EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON FAMILIES LEFT BEHIND IN CONTRAST TO THE FAMILY REUNIFICATION PROGRAM BENEFICIARIES WHICH, HERETOFORE, WE REGARDED AS THE GOOD FORTUNE OF SOME OF OUR OVERSEAS FILIPINOS.**

**SESSION IV – IT IS AN INTERESTING COINCIDENCE THAT THE CLAMOR FOR A PSO TRAINING TOUR ON THE K-12 WAS VOICED OUT ON THE VERY DAY THAT ITS ENABLING LEGISLATION (RA 10533 – ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013) WAS SIGNED INTO LAW BY PRES. AQUINO. THE COMPREHENSIVE PRESENTATIONS ON THE CONTRASTING FEATURES OF THE BASIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM AND THE K-12, AT BOTH ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY LEVELS, UNDERSCORED THE IMPORTANCE OF MASSIVE AND INTENSIVE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT. BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, FAILING THIS MUCH NEEDED AND WANTED INTERVENTION BY OUR DEPED RESOURCE PERSONS, THE ONUS LIES ON THE PRINCIPALS OF OUR PSOS.**

**GIVEN THE MAGNITUDE OF THE DEPED’S AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY ON THE HOME FRONT, AND THE EQUALLY IMPORTANT ATTENTION THAT MUST BE PAID TO THE PSOS UPSKILLING FOR INCLUSIVE AND SIMULTANEOUS TRANSITION TO THE K-12 PROGRAM – NO SCHOOL NEED BE LEFT BEHIND. FORTUNATELY – WE CAN RESORT TO THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE DELIVERY OF THIS FELT NEED. THAT THE CFO HAS ANTICIPATED THIS BY PRODUCING A COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENTATION (AUDIO-VIDEO) OF OUR PROCEEDINGS WHICH WILL BE ACCESSIBLE ON-LINE THROUGH OUR PSO WEBSITE WITHIN THE CFO WEBSITE IS MOMENTARILY REASSURING. (DEADLINE END MAY) JUST THE SAME, WE ARE COMMITTED TO ASSIST YOU IN MAKING IT HAPPEN GIVEN THE OVERWHELMING SUPPORT EXPRESSED BY OUR PSO ADMINISTRATORS. HOWEVER, THE INSIGHTFUL QUESTIONS AND KNOWLEDGEABLE RESPONSES FROM THE PSO PARTICIPANTS GIVE EVERY INDICATION THAT THE COMPETENCY AND CAPABILITY TO LEAD THE TRANSITION ALREADY LIE WITHIN THE PSOS. THUS, IT BEHOOVES THE ASSOCIATION OF PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS TO PROCEED AND COLLABORATE – WITH OR WITHOUT THE DEPED.**

**V – THE CULINARY ARTS COMPETITION THAT WE LAUNCHED LAST NIGHT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MAMA SITA FOUNDATION IS A CASE IN POINT. WE ALL KNOW THAT INNOVATIVE APPROACHES AND TRAILBLAZING INITIATIVES WARRANTED BY THE K12 FRAMEWORK PROMPT US TO THINK OUT OF THE BOX. AS WE EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE WAYS AND MEANS TO CHANNEL THE ENERGIES OF OUR YOUTH INTO MULTIPLE TRACKS LEADING TO THEIR PRODUCTIVE ENGAGEMENT AND EMPLOYABILITY – WE MUST REMEMBER THAT THIS NEED NOT BE CONTINGENT ON GOVERNMENT RESOURCES ALONE.**

**MANAGING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR MIGRANT CHILDREN IS THE PENULTIMATE CHALLENGE WE FACE IN THE PSO SYSTEM. AND OUR EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT WE CAN TAP WILLING COOPERATORS WHO SHARE OUR VISION AND MISSION. MANY ARE CONSCIOUS OF THEIR CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBIITY ESPECIALLY THOSE FOR WHOM SERVICING MIGRANTS HAS BECOME A PROFITABLE VENTURE WHICH MOVES THEM TO PAYBACK. TODAY, WE MUST ADMIT, MIGRATION WHICH HAS BEEN PURPORTEDLY DRIVEN BY POVERTY AND JOBLESSNESS – HAS NOW BECOME AN INDUSTRY PROVIDING JOBS, JOBS AND MORE JOBS.**

**AND THE SAME CAN BE SAID OF OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE APPRECIATION EXERCISE THROUGH THE “VIRTUAL SENTRO RIZAL.” IT IS ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY SEEKING INITIATIVE TO EXPOSE OUR STUDENTS TO CREATIVE ENTERPRISE OPTIONS THAT AWAIT THEM IN SUNSHINE INDUSTRIES LIKE THE FIELD OF DESIGN AND ANIMATION.**

**VI -- IN CONCLUSION – WE CAN ONLY REITERATE WHAT WE EARLIER SAID IN OUR KEYNOTE ADDRESS: AS FAR AS THE PSOS ARE CONCERNED...THE BEST IS YET TO COME!**

**HANGGANG SA SUSUNOD NATING PAGKIKITAT AT PAGSASAMA SAMA --- SALAMAT SA INYONG SIPAG AT TIYAGA!**

**/MGT- 05.17.13**