



Notes from the Editor

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In its latest effort, the Department of Education, in the Philippines, launched *SulongEdukalidad*, to shift focus on quality delivery of education. *Edukalidad* focuses on four major actions (acronym KITE) to address quality in basic education:

- K to 12 curriculum review and update
- Improving learning environment
- Teachers' upskilling and reskilling
- Engagement of stakeholders

While all four actions are crucial for the achievement of expectations, the focus on teachers and how they are viewed as main agents to effect lasting change in education, will prove to be the most important aspect of *Edukalidad*.

Locally, challenges are met in many areas of teacher upskilling and reskilling. There is also the much-desired concrete link between the pre-service and in-service system in developing quality teachers to handle basic education.

This latest volume of EMER adds to the growing literature on links between motivation and classroom focus. In particular, the article of Ocampo and Magno underscores the potentials of pre-service teachers with emphasis on assessing their passion for teaching. The article supports paradigms in reviewing passion using specific data analysis. While the article is not exhaustive in terms of what the driving passion/s is/are for the pre-service teachers, it allows us a to see critical areas to help in providing data which may assist in upskilling teachers.

Further, the article by Lucasan and Ballada draws good initial mapping of what values are taught by basic education teachers. Their conclusions drive us to take a look at what seemingly is lacking in most basic education schools:

teaching of values as both classroom and school decisions. For the most part, the article emphasized that the teaching of values is successful only when those who teach it (all school personnel) also embody them.

Finally, Bongala and David provided much needed pedagogical practices that may support students understanding of algebraic patterns. While the article is not exhaustive in showcasing additional lens for teachers, it provides an analysis of the challenges students face so that teachers' practices maybe strengthened or refined.

All three articles provide additional focus DepEd's efforts in the further reskilling and upskilling of our teachers. It is PEMEA's support to education quality in the country through educational measurement and evaluation.