



Red-hot CALABARZON makes NSPC history 'Powerhouse' region bags rare 4-peat in Koronadal press tilt

Campus journalists from CALABARZON region put on a clinic in Koronadal City, South Cotabato to post the first ever 4-peat in the history of the National Schools Press Conference (NSPC) – showing the competition why it has the best journalism program in the entire country.

Clad in their signature red journalist's vest, CALABARZON delegates flocked the contest venue at the Notre Dame of Marbel University, ready to defend the coveted NSPC crown.

The National Capital Region, which was determined to stealing the overall crown, drew first blood after edging the defending champion in the elementary group contest, while Central Luzon remained at a striking distance.

As the perennial bridesmaid, NCR's spirit was on the all-time high with two elementary school newspapers winning the "Best National School Paper" awards, compared to just one for CALABARZON (Ang Kaiimito).

With the ongoing El Niño, the atmosphere at the awarding

their respective categories – winning all individual and group categories, as well as television broadcasting and scriptwriting contests.

Powerhouse team CALABARZON, after dominating in the individual and group contests, took home the overall

or the PRESS to help the country overcome economic, natural and societal drawbacks and difficulties.

"This 4-peat should be taken as a driving force for aspiring media practitioners. Lead the country into enlightenment and awareness. Student journalists and school paper advisers (SPAs) continue the legacy you yourselves started with passion and determination," he said.

The regional director, on the other hand, called for a more active involvement among Calabarzon's school paper advisers to ensure continuity of the winning tradition. He added that SPAs play a crucial role in preparing and honing student writers and broadcasters for future competitions.

"With the win, our teachers and school paper advisers are challenged to share valuable input during journalism trainings and symposiums. They should act as a support force for our young journalists," San Antonio added.

For her part, Ms. Jennifer Lopez,

DepEd-Region 4A supervisor in Journalism, echoed Kara David's appeal to the country's campus journalists and news industry aspirants during the opening program of the annual journalism competition.

"Inspiring others is the extension of journalism's reach. I want you to influence change. Be the change. Journalism is more than what we write, deliver and tell," Lopez said in an interview.

In this year's NSPC, CALABARZON has also proven that the Most Outstanding School Paper Adviser (MOSPA) and the Most Outstanding Campus Journalist (MOCJ) are residents of the four-peat champion region. Joseph Natanauan of Fr. Luigi Caburlotto School netted the 2016 MOSPA award, while sports writer, Francis Eric Salvador of Krizliss International School brought home the MOCJ honor.

Patrick T. Coquilla
Trece Martires City National
High School



ceremonies literally heated up with NCR poised for another upset in the secondary group contests.

However, CALABARZON's finest proved to be too much for the Capital as it dominated the high school competition with Ang Pandayan of Cavite province bagging the lone "Best National School Paper" title in the secondary level.

The win at the group contest gave student journalists from Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon the much-needed morale boosts coming into the announcement of winners for the individual contests.

By end of the fifth day of the competition, CALABARZON students were declared overall champions in

championship award for the fourth consecutive year. It was also the first time for a region to win 4-peat since the establishment of the overall scheme in the NSPC.

Meanwhile, NCR and Central Luzon ranked 2nd and 3rd place, respectively.

Dr. Diosdado M. San Antonio, DepEd-Region 4A regional director, lauded students and school paper advisers for the record-setting peat, stressing that the win would serve as a reminder of the flare of the journalism in the region.

San Antonio, at the same time, urged campus journalists to imbibe the lessons they learned during the competition and uphold their responsibility as individuals who use the power of the "fourth estate"





Sri Lankan Educators Benchmark SMB with DepEd CALABARZON

Twenty-eight educators from North Western Province of Sri Lanka visited DepEd CALABARZON Regional Office for an international exposure visit on School-Based Management and School-Based Teacher Development Strategies and Implementation

from the World Bank.

The visitors were welcomed by the Assistant Regional Director Dr. Beatriz G. Torno together with the Chiefs of CLMD, HRDD, QAD, PPRD, Regional Supervisors from the FTA Division, Public Affairs Unit and the host school, Karangalan Elementary School headed by the Principal Dr. Aurora DU Flores.

The open forum conducted between the Sri Lankan delegates and DepEd CALABARZON officials gave opportunity for the former to raise questions and clarify issues ranging from national budget allocation, teacher hiring and training as well as School Based Management. ARD Torno, accompanied by Dr. Erico Habijan, Dr. Luz Osmeña, Dr. Melna Albano and Dr. Flores readily answered queries pertaining to co-curricular events, stakeholders' role in the development of education and

learners, special classes, updating of the data base management, the proper use of funds



last February 23, 2016. This project, focused on the operation and monitoring support unit of Transforming the School Education System (TSEP) as the foundation of knowledge hub, was a product of a grant

Management. ARD Torno, accompanied by Dr. Erico Habijan, Dr. Luz Osmeña, Dr. Melna Albano and Dr. Flores readily answered queries pertaining to co-curricular events, stakeholders' role in the development of education and



and the hiring process of teachers and other issues from the inquisitive visitors.

The visit ended with the exchange of tokens between the hosts and visitors highlighting the full appreciation of the different approaches and strategies applied to attain the global mission of educating all children.

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DepEd CALABARZON holds 2017 Budget Preparation; DBM Specialist explains Two-Tier Budgeting Approach (2TBA) Concept



The conduct of the FY 2017 Budget Preparation and Guidelines on the Release of Funds cum Updates on the Enhanced Financial Reporting System (eFRS) was attended by 471 Fiscal Staff from the 19 Schools Division Offices of DepEd CALABARZON together with selected Regional Office personnel from Administrative, PPRD, HRDD for GAD Focal Person and Finance Division on February 23-25, 2016 at Teachers' Camp, Baguio City hosted by the DepEd Division of Rizal. The seminar was highlighted by the supportive Chief Budget Management Specialist,

Ms. Mac Peñamente from DBM IV-A, who shared a very comprehensive and detailed presentation on the Budget Execution for FY 2016 and the Key Principles for FY 2016 Budget, the Two-Tier Budgeting Approach (2TBA).

The two (2) activities conducted constituted a good opportunity among all the fiscal staff and other personnel (accountants, budget officers, planning officers, HRMOs, EPS-in-charge of GAD and School Accountants/Senior Bookkeepers) to discuss important matters on

proper utilization of funds. In order to maintain the high momentum and commitments reached during the seminar- workshop, it was decided that each group would conduct simultaneous activities to address all concerns in their respective fields. In the context of improved Transparent, Ethical and Accountable (TEA) Governance towards attaining an effective delivery and results, the Finance Division would still maintain Team CALABARZON as the Benchmark Region in the Philippines.

Laarnie Evaristo, AO-V
Finance Division



Cavite holds SHS Stakeholders Summit; Industry partners show support



DepEd-Cavite officials led by Cherry Lou De Mesa, OIC Schools Division Superintendent-Division of Cavite (standing, second from the right), with LGU officials (sitting) ensure the success of the summit by building partnership with the business sector representatives. Photo by Niño Paulo V. Crispe

To ensure the success of the implementation of the Senior High School (SHS) program and partnership with business and industry leaders, the Department of Education - Division of Cavite in partnership with the Provincial Government of Cavite held the Cavite Education Stakeholders Summit: Industry and Business Sectors Edition last Feb. 23 at Island Cove Hotel and Leisure Park, Kawit, Cavite.

About 300 participants from Local Government Units (LGUs), DepEd and different business sectors attended the summit which aimed to update the stakeholders about the status of the program's implementation and attain solid partnership with prospective stakeholders in the business sector.

Industry and business sectors' support was sought to provide opportunities and assistance in any or all of the following: collaboration on continuous campaign on SHS program, provision of Technical Vocational and Livelihood (TVL) equipment and materials, assistance to train SHS teachers, acceptance of SHS students for work immersion and provision of scholarship grant to SHS students.

Present among the participants from the business sectors were Royale Tagaytay, Jollibee Food Inc., Puerto Azul Golf and Country Club, McDonalds, Petron Corporation, Bridgestone, and Gardenia Bakeries (Phils) Inc.

"Ipakita natin ang malasakit natin sa batang Kabitenyo. Dahil sa pagkakaisa natin maitatawid natin ang kabataang Pilipino sa Senior High School." (Let us show our care for Cavite youth. Through our unity we can bridge the Filipino youth through Senior High School), Cherrylou D. De

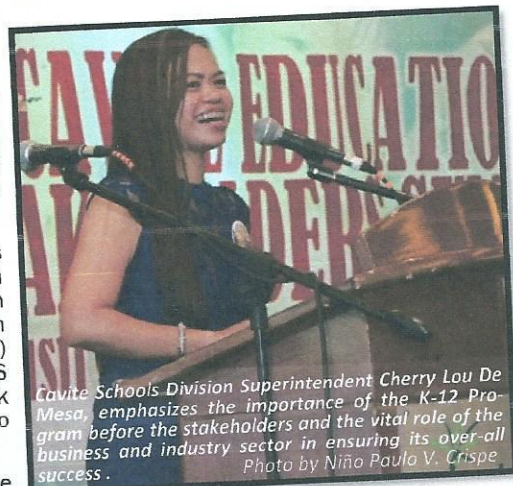
Mesa, OIC Schools Division Superintendent-Division of Cavite, emphasized.

"It is true that it takes a village to educate a child. And the help of different stakeholders will truly make this happen," De Mesa added.

"The village that raises a child is us. All the people here are those that will raise a child. The physical presence of the representatives from business sector is a proof of their willingness to help. Cavite has the highest attendance of representatives from business sectors. I congratulate the provincial government and the Division Office for this accomplishment," Dr. Beatriz G. Torno, Assistant Regional Director, DepEd Region IV-A, remarked in her message.



Asst. Regional Director Dr. Beatriz G. Torno gives her inspiring message during the Cavite Education Stakeholders Summit: Industry and Business Sectors Edition. She encouraged partnership with the 122 business sector representatives who attended the summit held at Island Cove Hotel and Leisure Park, Kawit, Cavite. Photo by Marlon S. Brian



Cavite Schools Division Superintendent Cherry Lou De Mesa, emphasizes the importance of the K-12 Program before the stakeholders and the vital role of the business and industry sector in ensuring its over-all success. Photo by Niño Paulo V. Crispe

The attendance of 122 representatives from the industry and business sectors is an indication of the success of the partnership opportunities among stakeholders and education sector.

Another summit that will be attended by SHS implementing schools' administrators will be held on March 1, 2016 at the Cavite Provincial Gymnasium, Trece Martires City.

Niño Paulo V. Crispe

Talent Is Where You Find It

"Know that in every heart and soul of every Filipino painter, artist, musician, poet is a soul that is worth reliving and sharing to the rest of the world." - Education Secretary Br. Armin Luistro FSC

To build healthy self-esteem, all children need to feel that they can do at least one thing very well. Many times, though, a special child's special talent is overlooked, but not anymore because the Department of Education (DepEd) has gathered its best and talented students with special needs from its various divisions in CALABARZON. It celebrated the 2016 Regional Academics and Co-Curricular Competitions for Children with Special Needs last February 15-16 at Cainta Elementary School, Cainta, Rizal with the theme "Building an Inclusive and Non Handicapping Environment for Persons with Disability".

The annual celebration of academic skills and talents discovered exceptional and amazing gifts in the areas of singing for the visually impaired, folk dancing for the hearing impaired, ballroom dancing for those with



awesomeness for those with Down Syndrome (boys and girls).

Creative achievement which only a few can manage to produce became an overflowing of blessings in works of art in the poster making competition for the hearing impaired, amazing



skills in braille reading and spelling became a break through as witnessed by Rizal SDS, Dr. Marites A. Ibañez.

The bazaar was also a treat for all the participants and guests as it showcased different local goods and handicrafts from CALABARZON.

As also seen in the display of cooking skills in the Cooking Demonstration from children with autism and those who are mentally challenged, different recipes were cooked and the cooking skills of CALABARZON's future chefs were evident in the happy faces of those who tasted the food prepared by the contestants.

DepEd Division of Rizal