

Our mission to provide quality Christian education to the poor but deserving students in the Holy Rosary Academy of Sipalay, Inc. has been a great challenge but a fulfilling mission. For that manner, the school community works hand in hand with external stakeholders in order to accomplish such endeavor. As such, here we are gathered as individuals, communities and brothers and sisters in Christ for our partnership to bring hope to the young Filipino learners. When I received an e-mail from the PEAC Executive Director, Ms. Rhodora Angela Ferrer informing me that the PRIVATE EDUCATION ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE has approved the participation of our school, Holy Rosary Academy of Sipalay, Inc., in the Leading for Educational Achievement Program starting this School Year 2019-2020, I would say, like Mary, the Lady of Rosary, "my heart glorifies the greatness of the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." I felt God's providence for us. The Holy Rosary Academy, the parents, students, teachers and the whole community of Sipalay were all glad for the good news. It has been my dream and a dream of our people there to make our school great. An old saying goes, "A grateful heart is always a happy heart." Let me share a little about my story. To tell you honestly, I never thought of involving in Education ministry. Every time we have a reshuffling, we were given a chance by our bishop to give the list of parishes where we wanted to be assigned to, I always choose a parish without a school because I really am allergic to school ministry. However, maybe it is God's will, I hope so, or our bishop's will, I was assigned last year as Principal of Holy Rosary Academy in Sipalay City. I accepted the assignment not as an educator but as a priest in obedience to my bishop. As time goes by I learned to love school ministry. With that, I realize that I have to equip myself so that I can deliver good service to the school, to my teachers and students. Thus, last year I took education units so that I can proceed to Graduate Studies. Now, I am taking Master of Arts in Education Major in Educational Management. As an administrator, I have to improve myself and to be on the shoes of those who I am working with to promote the culture of competence. I believe that the master's degree, my day to day experiences in school and our partnership with you are a big help for me personally to understand more what education ministry is.

Furthermore, the same inspiration and hope came into my mind when I heard about LEAP. I believe this program, with the help of PEAC and LASSAI, our dream of becoming great school will be realized. I am very optimistic of this program. I am certain that the LASSAI will provide us guidance in areas of administration and governance, instructional program, and school personnel. These areas of concern are relevant for the continuous improvement of our school. A number of facilities, culture and competencies are lacking in our environment. It's a sad truth but through collaboration with PEAC and LASSAI, our sadness will turn into joy. In behalf of the Holy Rosary Academy of Sipalay, Inc., I thank you PEAC and welcome LASSAI "accompervisors" to Holy Rosary Academy of Sipalay. Let us continue the teaching vocation that Jesus, Himself showed us for the Filipino youth, a pleasant day to one and all!

[TEXT BY FR. MARLON TEJADA, PRINCIPAL, HOLY ROSARY ACADEMY OF SIPALAY, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL]