

# Optimism – Urged at PAFTE 8’s Student Teaching Convention

By: Dr. Laura B. Boller

*Amidst the threat of COVID-19 pandemic, the officers of Philippine Association for Teachers and Educators (PAFTE) Region 8 courageously faced the challenge of conducting the Annual Student Teachers’ Convention with the theme: “The Present New Normal for Student Teachers: Stories of Small Wins” on March 27, 2021 via Zoom.*

The convention aimed to highlight the experiences of student-teachers in their practice teaching stints and their abilities to surmount the Student Internship Activities amidst the pandemic.

The widely attended convention started as scheduled despite of the technical challenges and power interruptions in the western and the northern parts of Samar province which slowed down the internet connection. A virtual parade of officers commenced the activity. Dr. Jennifer A. Gorumba, the Dean of the College of Teacher Education of Palompon Institute of Technology and the PAFTE-8 Chair welcomed the participants with her message and immediately followed by the Inspirational Message of Dr. Marilyn D. Cardoso, University President of Samar State University who was emphatic to say: *“I am honored and humbled to speak before a special group of participants composed of heads of HEIs, campus directors, deans, student teaching coordinators, teachers, and would be- teachers in Region 8”* and she congratulated the PAFTE-8 for the success of holding the convention.

Ms. Christelle Angelica C. Corpin, the current Academic Affairs Coordinator of St. Therese Christian Development Center Foundation, Inc. (STCDCFI), Tacloban City and the keynote speaker got the participants’ attention in her outpouring of personal experiences in championing life’s challenges.

She, like many other Filipino teachers, was not spared from the wrath of COVID-19 but the condition did not hinder her to spread positivity and courage in facing life’s challenges. Some of the lines that created mark were: *“I am a teacher honored, noble and beautiful in the eyes of God”*. She also uncovered her secret of 4S’s to **Teach like a Champion** and it involved: (1) see your goals, see their needs (2) seize every opportunity of growth (3) sympathize and share others’ joys and pains and (4) spend whatever it takes.

Adding highlight to the event were the Pep Talk sessions from student teachers who have responded to the PAFTE-8 invitation. Student speakers shared their testimonies of their own little ways of surviving practice teaching amidst the crisis which were categorized as their stories of small wins. Mr. Joel M. Navera, BSEd Filipino student teacher from Visayas State University talked on “The Friendly Face of Technology”; Mr. Jorico M. Lentejas, BEEd from Northwest Samar State University impressed the audience of his voice when he presented “The Promises of Wireless Fidelity”; Ms. Kimberly Dawn L. Go and Ms. Roselle R. Hermosilla both BEEd from Leyte Normal University shared their talks equally well on the topics “Virtual and In-person Mode of Instruction: The Best of Both Worlds” and “Virtual Challenge Accepted” respectively: Ms. Madelyn V. Ilao, BEEd of Samar State University unraveled her student teaching experiences in Dong Thap University, Vietnam in line with the topic “Student Teaching Journey in the New Normal”.

Dr. Perlita M. Vivero, the PAFTE-8 Vice Chair concluded the event with her synopsis of the day’s activities and expression of gratitude to all those who have attended the virtual gathering.

## PAFTE VIII Holds Annual Student Teachers' Convention

By: Dr. Estelita D. Calvo

*PAFTE VIII’s holding of the Annual Student Teachers’ Convention on March 27, 2021 via Zoom was an attainment of the Key Performance Indicators within the Work and Financial Plans of the Executive Council Committee and that of the Education Committee: Conduct of Regional Student Teachers’ Convention and Pre-Service Teachers’ Growth at On-line Teaching Stints for Semester 1 SY 2020-2021, respectively.*

The convention was attended by a total of 1,379 combined student teachers and coordinators from Abuyog Community College (ACC), Bato Institute of Science and Technology Inc., Colegio de San Juan Samar Inc., Eastern Samar State University (ESSU), Eastern Visayas State University (EVSU), Franciscan College of Immaculate Conception Inc. (FCIC), Leyte Normal University (LNU), Montano Lamberte Go College of Learning Inc., Northwest Samar State University (NwSSU), Palompon Institute of Technology (PIT), Saint Joseph College (SJC), Saint Michael College, Samar College, Samar State University (SSU), Southern Leyte State University (SLSU), Sto. Nino College of Ormoc, University of Eastern Philippines (UEP), Visayas State University (VSU), and Western Leyte College Inc.

The consistent technical endorsement from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) on PAFTE’s undertakings is a boost towards obtaining a significant number of participants from HEIs. Hence, the endorsement always leads to the support of HEI Agency Heads on the activities.

Specifically, the convention aimed at helping the student teachers cope technically and emotionally with the shifts of instructions from the in-person to virtual mode articulated by this year’s theme: The Present Normal for Student Teachers - Stories of Small Wins.

# The Present Normal for Student Teachers

By: Ms. Rochelle T. Cervantes



*In the course of pandemic that has drastically altered many facets of life, it is more essential than ever to maintain successful educational delivery at all levels.*

Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs) have embraced the unique challenge and opportunity posed by the extraordinary circumstances surrounding AY 2020–2021 by providing courses in creative and versatile ways appropriate for the current situation.

These sudden changes in the education sector brought doubts and worries to the student teachers who were trained to teach in an in-person mode of teaching during their first three years in the TEIs. However, TEIs are striving to work hard to ensure that the next generation of teachers is adequately prepared to teach in the post-pandemic, new normal world.

TEIs administer a series of trainings and send student teachers to attend the different professional organizations' webinars to address their need to adapt and learn in the new normal.

These venues provide student teachers with the opportunities to interact with and learn from other students within their fields and beyond – engaging settings that will open to newly discovered possibilities for interaction, gaining of new insights, and sharing of practices.

With the continued efforts of the TEIs and the different professional organizations, it will be easier for the student teachers to learn and teach in the present normal.

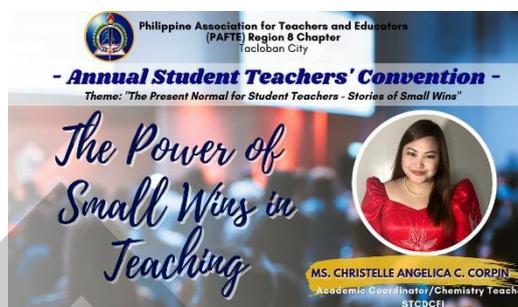
## Small Wins Lead to the Big Goal

By: Dr. Perlita M. Vivero

*“What drives you moves others.”* This catchy tagline in Metro Channel’s ‘Driven’ captures how Ms. Angelica C. Corpin, this year’s Key Speaker at PAFTE VIII’s Annual Student Teachers’ Convention has moved everyone, among the future teacher participants, with the richly insightful and inspirational talk – *The Power of Small Wins in Teaching*. Ms. Corpin’s colorful journey as a consistently achieving student abroad, at Carl Hankey Elementary School in LA California and in the Philippines, is immensely admirable.

The determination, perseverance, and persistence topping her grit as an empowered learner weaved beautifully into the image of the passionate educator that she has become.

Currently working as a Chemistry teacher and the Academic Affairs Coordinator of St. Therese Christian Development Center Foundation Inc. (STCDCFI), Ms. Corpin soars with the accolades she earns all because her dedication to quality service mirrors it all.



Among the said significant recognitions are: Most Outstanding Private School Teacher by DepEd, Module Writer for Rex Bookstore, nomination to the Leyte Normal University Dayaw Awards Graduate School Model Student, and official acceptance to the North Carolina, USA Cultural Teacher Exchange Program.

big goal) attribute to one of her key points: SHAPE – Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, and Experiences. Indeed, her small wins are leading her onwards to things brighter and promising as a teacher who radiates the commitment to bring others into the common goal of making a difference in small but significant ways.

Speaking before the hefty number of promising future teachers in Region VIII, Ms. Corpin claimed that small wins in teaching (that lead to the attainment of the



Philippine Association for Teachers and Educators (PAFTE) Region 8 Chapter Tacloban City

## - Annual Student Teachers' Convention -

Theme: 'The Present Normal for Student Teachers: Stories of Small Wins'

### TOPICS THIS AFTERNOON SESSION:

**Pep Talk 2: The Promise of Wireless Fidelity**  
Student Speaker: Mr. Jorico M. Lentejas

**Pep Talk 3: Virtual and In-Person Mode of Instruction: The Best of Both Worlds**  
Student Speaker: Ms. Kimberly Dawn L. Go

**Pep Talk 4: Virtual Challenge Accepted**  
Student Speaker: Ms. Roselle R. Hermosilla

**Pep Talk 5: Student Teaching Journey in the New Normal**  
Student Speaker: Ms. Madelyn V. Ilae

*They say, success is a series of small wins and we have seen remarkable successes on how responsive our educational systems, policy makers, teachers, students, and families can be despite the global destruction caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.*

Amidst this unprecedented hardship in providing high-quality education, many of our students, especially teacher education students, use this current reality as a steppingstone to help elevate the teaching profession despite the various challenges of working conditions.

## The Stories of Small Wins

By Dr. Jennifer Gorumba

Moreover, the pandemic has opened a lot of opportunities to most of our student teachers to be reminded of what learning and teaching should be despite the different circumstances.

And, as we saw at the recently concluded Philippine Association for Teachers and Educators convention, student teachers can go into their day-to-day practices even with the struggles and adjustments in remote learning.

These are the small victories that are worth celebrating about. We may not know what our future lies ahead but this pandemic has given us a lot of realizations and learnings that as a teacher we should go beyond the call of duty to serve our valuable mission as an educator. This is also our opportunity to hone more our skills, be more empathetic and celebrate every win, no matter how small it is and be more committed.

The commitments we will have will surely create a good foundation as an educator to confront the new challenges of remote learning. And we learned from the different pep talks during the convention the importance of the support from the school administration and government officials in this most difficult time to re-envision our educational system and to be consistent with our vision and mission.

# The Numbers Tell at PAFTE Region 8's Student Teachers' Convention

By: Dr. Beverly B. Fernandez

The Philippine Association for Student Teachers and Educators Region 8 is awed and grateful to the wide participation of student teachers and their teacher coordinators showed by the hefty 1,379 participants from HEIs in the region, converged virtually via Zoom, with the following specifics:

▪ Abuyog Community College	91
▪ Bato Institute of Science and Technology	24
▪ Colegio de San Juan Samar Inc.	33
▪ Eastern Samar State University	108
○ (Can-avid Campus, Maydolong Campus & Main Campus)	
▪ Eastern Visayas State University	92
○ (Dulag Campus & Main Campus)	
▪ Franciscan College of Immaculate Conception Inc.	65
▪ Leyte Normal University	129
▪ Montano Lamberte Go College of Learning Inc.	34
▪ Northwest Samar State University	48
▪ Palompom Institute of Technology	93
○ (Tabango Campus & Main Campus)	

▪ Saint Joseph College	35
▪ Saint Michael College	37
▪ Samar College	45
▪ Samar State University	81
○ (Paranas Campus, Mercedes Campus & Main Campus)	
▪ Southern Leyte State University	42
▪ Sto. Nino College of Ormoc	30
▪ University of Eastern Philippines	62
○ (Laoang Campus & Main Campus)	
▪ Visayas State University	294
○ (VSU-Alangalang, VSU-Isabel, VSU-Tolosa, VSU-Villaba & Main Campus)	
▪ Western Leyte College Inc.	36

The numbers above are evident of the student teachers' unstoppable quest to be relevant as they search for more learning through seminars and conventions, guided by their supportive Coordinators, Deans, and respective Institution Heads.

Hopefully, the stories of both downfalls and triumphs rendered by the teacher and student speakers alike serve as anchor of motivations and inspirations as student teachers continuously pave toward their respective journeys to success.

