Honor and Excellence

CCNHS through the years

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“Yesterday is but a dream. Tomorrow is only a vision. But today well lived makes every yesterday a dream of happiness, and every tomorrow a vision of hope.”

The history of Calasiao Comprehensive National High School over the past 70 years of existence documents significant events of its transcendence, featuring its humble beginnings, its transformation, and its emergence to eminence. A review of CCNHS past accounts for early attempts toward the quest for quality education which reecho the demand, recapture the vision, relive the spirit and dramatize the essence of education.

**A PEEK OF THE PAST**

The record of CCNHS vestige dates back to the Japanese occupation. Organized on May 1942, it was then known as Pangasinan Provincial Boys High School. An outgrowth of concerted effort, the school was founded. Instrumental to its foundation were then Calasiao Mayor Miguel De Vera, Pangasinan Governor Dr. Santiago Estrada and Mr. Adriano Catbagan who consequently became its first principal.

Our historical chapter points to the period when a national crisis posted threat to the school’s operation. When the country was at the verge of World War II, students were compelled to retreat in their safety underground refuge and fail to attend school. Classes were conducted in irregular sessions, thus Pangasinan Provinical Boys High School met its closure in 1994

The setback was short-lived. After the war, the school was reopened by Col. Parker on January 19, 1945 by the authority of Gen. Keuger, Commanding General of the US 6th Army. Noteworthily, then Pangasinan Provincial Boys High School was renamed Calasiao High School and retained its status as provincial school until 1962. Consequently, as the first high school established outside Lingayen, capital of Pangasinan, it immediately attracted a swarm of enrollees from neighboring towns and provinces. Scattered tents fronting the municipal hall, the local convent, and some big houses near the Poblacion served as classrooms for the unexpected deluge of students.

After the liberation, the municipal government purchased a portion of the present school site. The other portion was donated by civic-spirited residents. Forerunners of the school’s reopening were then Mayor Miguel De Vera, Mr. Jose F. Dizon, Mr. Teodorico Estrada and Mr. Andres F. Gutierrez.

In 1962, a remarkable transition was witnessed when the school was turned over by the provincial government to the municipal government to the municipal government the late 50’s and up to the 60’s marked tremendous growth in terms of infrastructures, student population and manpower resources – more teachers were employed, the main building was constructed, the Home Economics/Industrial Arts building were renovated, and a piano and sound system were procured.

Peace Corps volunteers, a project of the late Pres. John F. Kennedy, came to assist the teachers in the 60’s.

In 1969, Calasiao High School became an envy of secondary schools in the region. Through the leadership of its principal, Mrs. Vicitacion J. Sabado, Calasiao High School was recognized as one of the best schools in the Region I. By this time, more buildings were constructed such as the Marcos-type building, the Pre-Fab building and the Alumni-Social Hall. The students were also involved in many campus activities, student clubs and organizations that mushroomed in number. The Hat Tribune posted as potent tool to promote student awareness and development. The Student Government Organization (SGO) provided proper forum and avenue for students’ welfare and advancement, a training ground for leadership and service.

However, the Hat tribune and SGO were abolished upon the declaration of Martial Law by President Ferdinand Marcos on September 21, 1972. The Hat Tribune was later allowed to resume publication and the SGO was revised thru the efforts of Mr. Arthur M. Bauzon and Madam Necita T. Cezar in 1982.

In 1974, the CCNHS Drum and Bugle Corps were organized under the baton of Mr. Jose L. De Guzman. It was instrumental in bringing fame and honor to the school. The band was undefeated in several drum and bugle competition and was consistent division champion. However, the DBC was disbanded in 1990 due to antiquated instruments.

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**DATE OF NATIONALIZATION**

September 29, 1977 highlighted the historical pages of the school. By virtue of Presidential Decree 1950, the school was nationalized. Subsequently, it was turned over by the municipal government to the national government, thus meeting its new title, “Calasiao National High School”.

The nationalization of the school ushered in complexities; demands of a growing student population, enlisting additional teachers, procurement of learning facilities, etc. Distinctively, a school nurse was requested to ensure the students and faculty health needs, a resident auditor was provided by the Commission on Audit, and four security guards were hired to safeguard the school and security of the students.

**THE START OF A COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM**

Year 1982 became another milestone of success as CHNS reached its peak being the first of a kind in the province to be converted into a “comprehensive” national high school by virtue of Batas Pambansa Blg. 180, a law introduced by the late assemblyman Felipe P. De Vera, Sr. the father of Calasiao Ex-Mayor Felipe “Celso” De Vera Jr.

As a comprehensive institution, the school was authorized to offer, in addition to the general academic curriculum, vocational and technological course, e.g. welding, animal husbandry, handicraft, graphic arts, entrepreneurship, metal craft, cosmetology, practical electricity, electronics, dressmaking, and recently computer education.

**1990 KILLER QUAKE JOLTED CCNHS**

During the 90’s, CCNHS was at the crossroads. The July 16, 1990 killer quake devastated the school; tremor destroyed the main building, the H.E. building, the water system and 34 spans of concrete perimeter fence. The school under the leadership of Mrs. Juana P. Gabrillo, (who was designated officer-in-charge upon the retirement of Mrs. Visitacion J. Sabado, on May 16, 1990) faced its biggest crisis ever.

**CHALLENGES OF RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION**

On August 1990, Mr. Marcelo C. Publico was tapped to spearhead the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the school as principal. Immediately, he took action to remedy the pathetic condition of the school.

Three months after Mr. Publico’s retirement on February, 1994, Dr. Bernadette O. Ordonez assumed the principal’s post for seven months from June to December 1994.

Mr. Jaime N. Molano, education supervisor, was designated officer-in-charge upon the promotion of Dr. Ordonez as Principal IV of Bayambang National High School.

Ccnhs rose at the advent of the new millennium(1995-2002), with its seventh principal, the late Mrs. Elsa P. Pasaoa. Like her predecessors, she initiated a number of prokects most of which was the construction of several school buildings to solve the rising student population. On her demiseon February 18, 2002 the school was left to find an equally competent successor to pursue Mrs. Pasaoa’s dreams for CCNHS.

The school was fortunate enough to have another alumnus and a former PEHM teacher of CCNHS (now an Education Supervisor I) to take charge of the school in the person of Mr. Alfredo Z. Nipal. His short stay (January 21 to August 21, 2002) had been a fruitful one as he was canteen and an Alumni Hall courtesy of CCNHS Batch 1966 were constructed.

**THE SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE IN THE MAKING**

On August 15, 2002, the regional office finally appointed a new CCNHS principal to frontline more projects. Former Principal II of Mapandan National High School, Dr. Lourdes D. Servito took her first hand work in the school as Principal II on August 22, 2002 to become envisioned to be the “School Excellence.”

At the onset of the school’s diamond years, CCNHS comes shining as it paves way for its outstanding achievements particularly in the fields of campus journalism, sports, arts, culture and technology. Guided by its trilocular mission of achieving culture of excellence, quality education and service for the common good, coupled with the vision to become a premier school in the country. CCNHS lays the foundation for life-long learning and continued commitment.

With the five-year plan bared by Principal Servito, major physical and instructional developments have been introduced. The outlay enumerated the upgrading of the teaching force, modern technology integration, development, of computer education programs for teachers and students, managing a better operating system, raising the delivery of instruction and continuing the publication of school paper. With Servito’s administration, “Ang Sombrero” was separated from the Hat Tribune as an independent publication having a new set of staffers for its own. In 2003, “Ang Sombrero” was judged as among the Top Ten Best School Papers in the Philippines.

The school launched its pre-accreditation synergy in 2003 through an internal and external environmental scanning and SWOTS analysis and figured out the strengths and weaknesses and the opportunities and threats, as well.

In line with the preparations for the accreditation of the school, the International Latter-Day Saint Charities humanitarian and welfare-arm of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, donated $10,000 for the reconstruction of five (5) classroom and major repairs of dilapidated rooms. This project materialized through the laborious efforts, link-aging and network of Dr. Servito.

Moreover, the participation and consultative methods of administration and supervision of the principal resulted to the formation of unified school canteen, legal registration of the CCNHS Cooperative with the CDA, and unification of the CCNHS Team. The first CCNHS Student Handbook, basis of conducts and discipline of students was also issued.

In addition, the Innovation 2003-2004 was advanced to meet the needs in all aspects of development and areas for accreditation. Eight more clubs/task forces were organized: Celebrity Circle, Revitalized Guidance Team, School Engineering and Planning Team (SEPT), Student Leadership Development Council (SDLC), CCNHS Medical Team, Focus on Reading Team, Action Research Team and Media Information Circle. Added to those were Linkaging and Resourcing Team (LRT), Security Enforcement Team (SET) and Anti-Drug Abuse Council (ADAC).

**THE NATIVITY OF CCNHHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.**

At the onset of the school’s diamond years, CCNHS has propelled on major innovations to score triumphs in its quest for a school of excellence. Under the administration of Dr. Servito, CCNHS fused its thousands of graduates from its founding year in 1942 into a community of one vision rooted from their glorious Alma Mater. Thus, marks the nativity of the Calasiao Comprehensive National High School Alumni Association, Incorporated (CCNHSAAI) that embodies the unified organization of all batches.

Projects of great magnitude were manifested as a product of profound faith and unshakable resolve of the association. New majestic buildings were built for CCNHS by the alumni batches ’66 (Alumni ’66 Building), Batch ’71, Batch ’73, and Batch ’75. The Senator Villar Building was acquired through the initiative of Batch ’81; two-storey Rene Velarde Building (dubbed as CCNHS Big Brother House) was donated by Rep. Rene Velarde of BUHAY Partylist through Dr. Alfonso Doria of Batch ’46.

The CCNHS Alumni Relations Council (ARC) which is composed of the team of the alumni teachers and employees serve as coordinators and information officers for their respective batches within and outside the CCNHS campus.

**ONWARD TO THE GOLDEN DREAM**

Together with the strong alumni, CCNHS has embarked on a major project in answer to the school’s classroom shortage. Dubbed as “Golden Dream”, by Dr. Lourdes D. Servito, the P28M Building is a proposed two-storey structure with twenty classrooms and four comfort rooms.

Funding for the first phase of the project were ventured by the CCNHSAAI or the Alumni funds which were sourced from the Calasiao Town Fiesta 2005; donations of the Calasiao Alumni Association of San Diego, California, USA worth P100,000.00; an aid from the Local School Board Funds worth P2 million implemented by the Local Government Unit(LGU) led by the Municipal Mayor Roy T. Macanlalay, president of the CCNHSAAI; donations of Senor Tesoro Association, Torres Clan Congresswoman Rachel “Baby” J. Arenas, Representative of the Third District of Pangasinan; Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, and the donations of CCNHS Batches ’67, ’74 and ’81.

**CCNHS SPECIAL PROGRAMS IN FULL BLOOM**

CCNHS ventured on the offering of special classes in journalism and became one of the few schools that offered Campus Journalism from first to fourth year in Region 1 in the year 2004. Alongside its offering of journalism subjects to students, CCNHS was delegated to be one of the training centers in campus journalism. The Special Classes in Journalism at the Secondary Level are designated to nurture talents in journalism in both print and broadcast media.

In addition, the school piloted the Career Pathways in Enriched Technology and Livelihood Program in the year 2007. Courses on Handicraft and Clothing and Textile was offered.

In the year 2008, CCNHS opened another door for its multi-talented students with special inclination to music, visual arts, theater arts, creative writing and dance – The Special Program in the Arts (SPA). The SPA envisions an excellent young artist with the aesthetic potential and renewed spirituality committed to the preservation of Filipino Culture and heritage. A US Peace Corps Volunteer in the person of Zachary Martin Florent who finished B.S. Theatrical Artsas Magna Cum Laude at Ball State University, Muncie, Indianaa extended his professional service in the Theater Arts Class for two (2) years.

During the school year 2010-2011, the Special Program in Science (SSP) was offered to nurture talent among budding scientist. This is an intense program for students with a fierce passion and strong aptitude for science. Students are introduced to some of the broad areas of contemporary scientific concerns through an interdisciplinary approach, a key cornerstone and hallmark of SSP.

One of the priority projects that she finds significant attention is the creation of innovations promoting the holistic development of students, the alleviation of school facilities, the alignment of school pathways and the construction of functional school drainage.

Spiritual formations and catechism are already conducted in classes. Thanksgiving Mass is celebrated every first Friday of month and the novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help is held every Wednesday.

After in-depth assessment of the school’s circumstances in different facets, Engr. Manaoat introduced a new management schemes in the opening of classes for the school year 2015-2016. Clustering of students in every grade level and special programs were appropriately arranged to hold classes in specified adjacent buildings. Sections were changed into names of heroes and saints to promote good values, nationalism, heroism and the love of God.

Proper time management, student discipline and security were intensified and monitored through the installation of school bell and close circuit television (CCTV). This is a surveillance system of the school fixed in strategic areas to monitor and display actions inside the campus.

During her management, she and seven other teachers were awarded during the Program Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) for the exemplary performances at Balon Bayambang Events Center, Bayambang, Pangasinan on October 5, 2017. Moreover, in 2015, Mr. Arthur Bauzon was also awarded as YMCA National Gold Medal Award in Philippine YMCA.

Engr. Manaoat was awarded as the Best Special Program Implementer. Seven other teachers received recognition for their outstanding performance: Dr. Daisy M. Barongan as Most Outstanding School Paper Adviser; Virgibal S. Vallo as coach of the 2016 songwriting contest at the National Festival of Talents; Carlito R. Nilo as coach for billards R1AA and the Palarong Pambansa champion; Genefiel S. Silvestre and Ana Marie Sarmiento as coaches of 2017 jingle-writing at the National Statistics Month celebration; Ryan S. Miranda as Most Outstanding teacher in Mathematics (Mother High School Category); and Merry Cherrie C. Carbonell as coach of Balagtasan at the Rehiyonal Talas Wikang Filipino. Engr. Manaoat expressed how honored she was that all the efforts of all the teachers, staff and students had paid off.

**CCNHS IS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL READY!**

The K to 12 Basic Education Program, which is a flagship of the Department of Education, introduces the additional two (2) years of Senior High School (SHS) – Grades 11 and 12. Through K to 12, learners will be equipped to be holistically developed Filipinos with 21st Century Skills.

Substantial planning, designing, and preparations were rallied by the Principal for full implementation of Senior High School (SHS) comes school year 2016-2017. With the assessment and evaluation of the Department of Education Central Office, CCNHS will be offering the Academic and Technical Vocational Livelihood Tracks of SHS. The four strands of Academic Track include Accounting, Business and Management (ABM), Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS) and General Academic Strand (GAS), Cookery, Bread and Pastry, Food and Beverage and the Computer Programming/Animation and Computer Hardware Servicing will be offered under the TVL Track.

Two newly-constructed four-storey building with a total of twenty-four (24) classrooms are now being used to cater the needs of the SHS registrants. Likewise, highly competent teachers to handle SHS classes are tapped by the school administration.

With the competent teachers handling the CCNHS Senior High School, the Grade 11 and Grade 12 students were trained very well and this was evident in the list of accomplishments and awards garnered by the Senior High School students.

On April 5, 2018. The SHS Department had managed to produce 599 competent senior high school students who are college-ready, work-ready and business ready.

**A NEW PRINCIPAL PERPETUATES CCNHS’ HONOR AND EXCELLENCE**

Former Principal IV of Malasiqui National High School was installed as the 11th Principal of Calasiao Comprehensive National High School on June 1, 2018. She is Madam Olivia Paragas Terrado, a Doctor of Arts Degee holder and eligible for Superentendency position.

Dr. Terrado aims to boost academic performance of CCNHS students, alleviate teachers’ competence through promotions and to intensify discipline and actions in maintaining a clean and green school environment.

The CCNHS was conferred First Place, Secondary-Big School Category, in the 2019 Search for the Best School Implementers of National Greening Program. Dr. Terrado’s enthusiasm and dedication in gardening influenced the teachers and students in planting as evidently seen with the variety of vegetables blended with herbs planted all over the school surroundings.

At present, CCNHS is never resting in achieving more laurels and has maintained its distinction as school of excellence. The School continues to shine through the intensive improvements and changes for the better, carried out hand-in-hand by the principal, school administrators, faculty and personnel, student body, parents, alumni, and members of the community.

From time to time, a throng of competent leaders continues to emanate from different batches of the alumni, showcasing meritorious accomplishments, exemplary performance, technical prowess and leadership skills, thereby bringing more honors to CCNHS’ name. The school remains to be an institution indispensable to nation-building dignified on its aim of nurturing and producing thousands of reputable nation builders.

“Excellence is an art won by training and habituation. We don’t act highly because we have virtue or excellence, but we rather have those because we have acted rightly. We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.” –Aristotle

Based on:

1. Highlights of CCNHS History by Napoleon F. Resultay
2. Research of Mr. Arthur M. Bauzon
3. Hat Tribune Files
4. CCNHS Diamond Jubilee Souvenir Program
5. CCNHS Glimpse of the Past by Atty. Sylvania Vinoya Gonzales