

# **MAKATI HIGH SCHOOL**

## **HISTORY**

By: Mrs. Myrna M. Cabamongan,  
Mr. Angelito E. Baloloy &  
Ms. Joan V. Igharas

Makati High School, the first public secondary school in the premiere city was established in 1968 through Municipal Resolution No. 201 and Provincial Board Resolution No. 832 and through the concerted efforts of the municipal officials and the people of Makati under the administration of the late Mayor Maximo B. Estrella. Its creation was the most awaited solution to the growing problems of the elementary school graduates in Makati.



The Makati Police Department basement along F. Zobel St., Poblacion cradled the first 361 students and the first batch of 14 teachers in school year 1968 - 1969 under the administration and supervision of Mr. Ruben H. Santos, Teacher-in-Charge. The tuition fee was PhP 50.00 paid in six installments. Eighty-two thousand eight hundred seventy-eight pesos (PhP 82,878.00) was appropriated for its operation.

In 1971, enrolment rose to 2,657 and the problem of accommodation came about. However, this was remedied by the construction of an 8-room Quonset building beside the Municipal Hall and the Makati Sporting Association building. In addition to this, a building at A. Bonifacio St., Poblacion was rented for the use of Home Economics classes. And later, the Casa Hacienda owned by the Ayalas was also rented to house the ever growing enrolment.



In 1972, the tuition fee was abolished, which paved the way toward free high school education in Makati by virtue of Municipal Resolution No. 893, under the late Mayor Nemesio I. Yabut. This triggered the sudden rise of

enrolment, three-fold necessitating the acquisition of annexes. The use of the elementary schools in the afternoon at the close of the elementary classes was resorted to by the administration; however, this arrangement was only temporary in nature, for there were already plans of constructing a 5 - storey edifice to house the Makati High school populace, which grew by leaps and bounds in the succeeding years, reaching almost 8,600 in 1977 from an enrolment of 361.

As the enrolment increased more annexes were opened namely: Poblacion I along P.P. Roxas St. cor. Gabaldon St. in 1973, Pio del Pilar Annex (1974), Carmona Annex (1977) and Poblacion II Annex Gabaldon St. (1977). Elementary schools like Bangkal, San Jose, Guadalupe Nuevo and Guadalupe Viejo, Makati Elementary School and F. Benitez Elementary School were also used in the afternoon to accommodate the 8,534 students.

The construction of the present main building (MHS Building B) started in

November 6, 1981 along Gen. Luna St. Poblacion, overlooking the skyline of Makati and its environs under the leadership of Mayor Nemesio I. Yabut. It was completed on May 1, 1984. It is a 5-storey edifice with 40 classrooms, 4 of which can be converted into a social hall, 4 science laboratories, an educational media center, a library, a school canteen, a record section, a clerical room and administrative offices, basketball court/playground.

The roof deck can be used for school and community affairs.

To bring the school closer to the community, the Makati High School Comembo Annex was opened in 1987. It was phased out in 1992 when a new school, the Benigno Ninoy Aquino High School was built to serve the students in that area.

Mr. Ruben H. Santos efficiently managed Makati High School for 23 years. He nurtured the school and watched it grow while encountering problems of all kinds; but he remained strong and determined to reach his goal, to make the students and teachers aspire to be the best of who they are, and be the best of what they can be. He has played a vital role in making Makati High School the leader school in the Division of Makati. Mr.

Santos, joined his creator on April 20, 1991. His death was a big loss but as long as MHS stands, his memories will remain forever in the hearts of those whose lives he has touched.



After the death of Mr. Santos, Dr. Ricardo T. Sibug, then the Assistant Schools Division Superintendent of Pasay City, acted as officer-in-charge of MHS. A few months after, Dr. Isabelita L. Montesa took over as Principal from 1991 to 1994. She was followed by Mr. Felix A. Balbaguio from 1994 to 1999. It was during his administration that another 5-storey building (MHS Building C) funded by the local government of Makati under the administration of Mayor Elenita S. Binay was constructed adjacent to the main building. It added 22 more classrooms, an air-conditioned Audio Visual Room, an air-conditioned library, computer laboratories and other function rooms.



When he retired, Mr. Roberto V. Anir was appointed OIC from May to December 1999. It was during his term that MHS - Poblacion Annex was constructed. This is also a 5-storey building with 11 classrooms and other function rooms like a library, audio visual room, science laboratory, guidance office, etc.

On January 1, 2000, Mrs. Juliana B. Tolentino took over as principal of the school. During her time, the school had grown even bigger in terms of area and population. Aside from the two imposing five storey main buildings and Poblacion Annex which housed 5,284 students, the school maintained three annexes which were San Antonio (Mayapis) with 1,313 students, San Isidro with 1,157 students and Gen. Pio del Pilar Annex with 2,313 students.

When Mrs. Juliana B. Tolentino retired on May 2002, San Antonio, San Isidro and Gen. Pio del Pilar Annex became independent schools. She appointed Mrs. Luzviminda L. Bannag, the Science Department Head, to become officer-in-charge for the school year 2002 -2003. She was reassigned at Pitogo High School and Dr. Nora H. Serdenia became principal of the school from May 2003 to March 2004. After Dr. Serdenia, Dr. Ester M. Montalbo, Education Supervisor in Filipino, became Makati High School's officer-in-charge from March 2004 to May 2005.





Mrs. Luzviminda L. Bannag the former OIC was reassigned in Makati High School from June 2005 to October 2006. Where she was promoted to Principal I and was assigned in San Isidro National High School as its new principal. The former principal II, of Makati Science High School Mr. Roberto V. Anir who was promoted to principal IV took over as principal of the school. Makati High School's enrolment rose to 4221. In October 2007, a new 5-storey Technology and Livelihood Education Building (MHS Building A) was constructed under the administration of Mayor Jejomar C. Binay. This building is intended to provide laboratory/classrooms for technology/technical/vocational/ or Livelihood education like: computer education, electronics, refrigeration and airconditioning, food technology, cosmetology, welding, entrepreneurship, and others.

To achieve its vision of a value – laden, academically competent, and globally prepared studentry, the school has provided the students with the better instructional materials, equipment and facilities. Makati High School is not only provided with the necessary instructional support such as textbooks, teachers' manuals, workbooks, charts, science laboratory equipment, computers, laptops, LCD projectors, robotics kits, intelligent or e – board, etc. but also well provided with the necessary infrastructures such as libraries (one of which is an e – library), computer laboratories, speech laboratory, Science laboratories, robotics laboratory, Audio – Visual Room, Social Hall (Ruben H. Santos Hall), Technology and Livelihood Education Building, school playground, internet / communication facilities and other ancillary services / facilities.

To be more responsive to the needs of its students and citizenry and to be able to contribute to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the Education for All (EFA) goals, Makati High School has provided educational



programs and innovatives that will provide access to education covering students of school age and out-of-schools' youths and adults.

This program includes:

1. Special Program for the Arts (SPA),
2. Special Program for Sports (SPS),
3. Open High School Program (OHSP), and
4. Alternative Learning System (ALS)



Makati High School also takes pride in producing the first Binibing Pilipinas Universe, Ms. Shamcey G. Supsup, who also landed as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Runner – up in the 2011 Ms. Universe which was held in Brazil. Ms. Supsup was also the topnotcher in the 2010 Board Examination in Architecture.

Makati High School was also blessed with another honor when one of its alumni, Paul Gerald L. Sanchez, tops the 2011 Board

Examination in Chemistry. He is now a scientist and still strives as a Predoctoral Fellow at the European Molecular Biology (EMBL).

In April 16, 2012, Dr. Danilo M. Romero assumed office as the new principal. He was a former Science teacher of Makati High School. Dr. Romero's first stint in the school is the ensuring the successful implementation of the K-12 Program. He was determined to continue the successes of Makati High School and maintain its good standing scholastically with the help of the faculty and staff. His "Kayang-Kaya Kung Tulong-Tulong Tayo" (KKK TTT) and the "Mangarap, Magtiwala at Magtagumpay" (MMM) dictum motivated the students and the teachers, as well, to give their best. As a result, the school ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the National Achievement Test in the Division of Makati.

In late September 2015, the Schools Division Superintendent, Dr. Dominico C. Idanan, held the position of Officer-In-Charge in view of Dr. Romero's retirement. He was a former teacher and department head of the TLE department. His vision is to prepare the school for the initial implementation of senior high school. He also greatly involved the physical facilities of the school such as the vertical garden, covered bleachers and canteen. He spearheaded the first MHS teambuilding at Teacher's Camp, Baguio City.





Mrs. Evangelina N. Apolinario, Principal II of Makati Science High School from April 16, 2012 to June 8, 2016 eventually returned to the school on June 9, 2016. Mrs. Apolinario is also a former Math teacher and department head at MHS. It was during her term, that Republic Act No. 10533 also known as Enhanced Basic Education Curriculum was implemented for Senior High School. The electives, or areas of specialization offered by MHS were the following:

- Academics for those who wish to pursue higher studies
  - Technical-Vocational-Livelihood for those who want to acquire employable skills after high school
  - Arts and Design for those who are inclined in the field.

Mr. Rosalito N. Palatan, former Principal of Gen. Pio del Pilar National High School and first President of the Federation of Public School Teachers of Makati (FEPSTAM) assumed office after the retirement of Mrs. Apolinario on November 16, 2018. On the first week of managing MHS, Mr. Palatan conferred with the student leaders, PTA officers, faculty and staff and discussed with them, some school policies, projects and programs, as well as problems and solutions to such.

With the re-assignments of principals in the Division of Makati, Mr. Felix T. Bunagan, former principal of Bangkal High School and Pitogo High School respectively, assumed the 15<sup>th</sup> principal of Makati High School. He did not just strengthen MHS's existing projects and programs, but also added more to it in order to maintain the school's primordial standing. The key thrusts of his leadership focuses on: defining the school's vision, mission, goals and objectives, managing the school's instructional programme, as well as establishing a favorable school atmosphere.

Mr. Bunagan serves as an epitome of an inspiring leader. He continuously leads teachers and learners towards academic success, continually works on improving the learning outcomes by ensuring quality instruction, and involves teachers' towards continuous development programs, upgrades facilities, and also gives focus and importance to the role of technology towards a more effective classroom delivery of knowledge and skills of teachers within and across content areas to their direct clientele-the learners. This is specifically to

establish and strengthen a 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching- learning processes responsive to the needs and demands of time, community, and the world.

Another relevant project is the project smile which aims to promote happiness and respect in the workplace- a place where everyone feels the

sense of importance and belongingness, to establish a harmonious relationship and connectivity among students, faculty and staff, department heads, school head and as well as the school's Administrative officers. All these lead to the creation of a favorable teaching-learning environment. Another significant project, Mr. Bunagan is concerned with is improving the learners reading comprehension in

response to the challenge of time reflected in the PISA results. Anchored with Deped's "Bawat Bata Bumabasa", the school has its flagship reading program taken from its very own acronym MHS- "Making Reading a Habit among MHS students".

The noble task of developing students' intellectual, physical, social, emotional and moral aspects is a commitment everyone in MHS continuously make to better serve its students, community and stakeholders.

In line with the objectives of the Enhance Basic Education Curriculum, Makati High School is anchored on the vision that, "We dream of Filipinos who passionately love their country and whose values and competencies enable them to realize their full potential and contribute meaningfully to building the nation. As a learner-centered public institution, the Department of Education continuously improves itself to better serve its stakeholders."

Makati High School has played a vital role in the development of a productive and responsible Makati citizenry. It will continue to do so in fulfilling its mission which is "to protect and promote the right of every Filipino to quality, equitable, culture-based, and complete basic education where: Students learn in a child-friendly, gender-sensitive, safe and motivating environment. Teachers facilitate learning and constantly nurture every learner. Administrators and staff, as stewards of the institution, ensure an enabling and supportive environment for effective learning to happen. Family, community and other stakeholders are actively engaged and share responsibility for developing life-long learners.



These are but some of the milestone that Makati High School will continue to celebrate in order to inspire more students, the out-of-school youths, and even the parents as it continue its journey towards the realization of its Vision and Mission as a noble commitment to our country and for the greater glory of God Almighty.