

The newly-constructed 3-storey 12 classroom building at the Tulungatung Elementary School is another testimony of the City Government's unyielding commitment to education with the hope of ensuring a better future for the young generation.

Costing P14.4 million, the building was inaugurated and turned over Friday in rites spearheaded by Mayor Celso Lobregat together with Councilors Rudy Lim, Nonong Guingona and Noning Biel and councilor-elect Charlie Mariano and City Division of City Schools OIC Superintendent Pedro Melchor Natividad.

One floor of the 3-storey building will be used as the temporary site of the 101 pioneer Grade 7 (first year) students of the Tulungatung National High School, an annex to the Ayala National High School, according to Lobregat.

The first building for the Tulungatung NHS, a 2-storey 6 classroom building is now ongoing construction in a 10,000-square meter lot situated within the Tulungatung Resettlement Area.

After blessing the 3-storey 12 classroom building, officiating priest Fr. Ding Vaño together with Mayor Lobregat and other city and education officials and other stakeholders proceeded to the proposed Tulungatung NHS site and also invoked blessings on the building ongoing construction.

"Educacion, es el solucion contra pobreza (Education is key solution to poverty)". Lobregat declared during the turnover rites held at Tulungatung ES open stage. He cited his administration's continuing commitment to education with the end in view of giving the youth a better and brighter future.

The building turned over Friday is only one of the numerous school buildings constructed by the city in the Tulungatung ES campus. In 2007, a 2-storey 6 classroom building worth P3.8M was completed and unveiled and in 2008, another 2-storey 6 classroom building was also completed in the amount of P4.3M.

In his message, Natividad thanked the City anew for the unyielding support to education and called on the Tulungatung teaching force to do their share by taking good care of the facility and to exert best efforts to provide quality education to the children.

Charlito Sumbrana, Tulungatung barangay chairman cited the Lobregat administration for prioritizing education in its flagship programs, as he assured the barangay council's support and assistance to the school.

Aside from Natividad and Sumbrana, also present to accept the new building were Ayala District Supervisor Dr. Fely Ascabano, Tulungatung ES Principal Hermogenes Bayaras, Tulungatung NHS OIC Olivia Soriano, the PTA community, students and barangay officials. Also present during the ceremony were Ayala NHS principal Dr. Socorro Canaya, City Engineer Luis Despalo, representative from the GHR Construction and numerous others.

In the past days, Lobregat spearheaded the turnover of school building and other education-related projects in Sta. Catalina, Mercedes, Divisoria, Malagutay, Bolong, Zone II, Vitali and Tetuan among others. —Sheila Covarrubias