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NOVEMBER 8, 2008

## Lapus pushes for sports innovation

Education Secretary Jesli Lapus called for public and private sector teamwork to advance sports research and integration of sciences in the training of coaches and athletes.

Lapus is batting for the creation of a Sports Academy to institutionalize and professionalize training in sports. He keynoted today the "Seminar on New Trends and Innovation on Coaching Athletic Sports" organized by the Private Schools Association of Parañaque (PSAP), held at the Olivares College Stadium in Sucat, Parañaque.

"Through the Sports Academy, we can bring in new technologies so that our athletes can measure up to international practices and standards," he said.

He shared in the event, which drew athletes, sports coaches, teachers and youth, that "continuous training of coaches in different sports as well as accreditation of technical officials is being pursued in DepEd in order to improve their competencies."

The Education Chief added, "To develop a new generation of highly-competitive, world-class athletes, our coaches must be familiar with the interdisciplinary methods on sports development such as the application of biomechanics, sport medicine, nutrition, sport psychology and sociology, measurement and performance evaluation. "

Lapus strongly pushed for students' well-rounded development involving physical, mental and spiritual growth. He cited the importance of a sound mind and sound body. He pointed out that the people's champion Manny Pacquiao is the poster boy of DepEd's Alternative Learning System.

"Even at the peak of his success, he chose to finish his high school education and is now a college student finishing a degree in business in one of the colleges in General Santos City," he said.

Other speakers in the event were Congressman Eduardo Zialcita of Paranaque City, Reuben Hermoso of the Philippine Sports Commission; Atty. Ruperto Sompoleo, Coach of the Olympic Archery Team; Divina Javier Beren, Coach of the Rhythmic Gymnastic National Team; Antonio Habana, Coach of Volleyball, Basketball and Cheering Teams of the University of Perpetual Help, Las Piñas.

The event highlighted the cooperation of all private schools, the government and the public schools in Parañaque in standardizing sports training in all Parañaque schools.

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