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GRADUATION MESSAGE
SY 2022-2023

To all the graduates of SY 2022-2023 congratulations on reaching this milestone in your educational journey! As you embark on the next phase of your life, I want you to take a moment to reflect on the theme of your graduation:

"Kto12 Graduates: Molded through a Resilient Educational Foundation (Gradweyt ng K to 12: Hinubog ng matatag na Edukasyon)."

This theme reminds me of the poem **Invictus** by William Ernest Henley, which I quote:

*"Beyond this place of wrath and tears,
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.
It matters not how strait is the gate,
How charged with punishment the scroll,
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul..."*

This is a powerful poem that speaks to the human spirit's resilience in the face of adversity. Graduates, this is your spirit. You are part of a generation that has faced unprecedented challenges, from the COVID-19 pandemic to natural disasters and social unrest. Despite these obstacles, you have persevered and demonstrated remarkable resilience. You have adapted to online learning, overcome personal difficulties, and maintained your focus on your goals.

Your ability to navigate these challenges is a testament to your strength and determination. But you did not do it alone. You have been supported by your families, teachers, and communities, who have provided you with a strong educational foundation.

The K to 12 curricula has equipped you with the knowledge, skills, and values you need to succeed in life. You have learned not only academic subjects but also life skills such as critical thinking, communication, and collaboration. More importantly, you were nurtured with values such as honesty, integrity, and social responsibility.

Your education has prepared you not only for the world of work but also for active citizenship. You are the future leaders of our country, and you have a vital role to play in shaping its future. You have the power to make a difference, whether it is in your community, your school, or the world at large.

As you move forward, I urge you to hold on to the lessons you have learned during your education. Remember the value of hard work, perseverance, and resilience. Embrace a growth mindset and continue to learn and improve yourself. Seek out opportunities to serve your community and make a positive impact in the world. And be steered by the values that have been instilled in you – honesty, integrity, and social responsibility.

You are the master of your fate! Continue maintaining your cheerful outlook and sense of control even when things are falling apart. You are the captain of your soul! Yes, even in the most challenging of circumstances, you have the power to shape your own destiny.

The challenges you will face in the future may be different from those you have encountered so far. But I am confident that you have the skills and values to overcome them. You have a bright future ahead of you, and I am excited to see the wonderful things that you will achieve.

As you celebrate your graduation, take a moment to thank those who have supported you along the way – your family, friends, and teachers. They have been your guiding light and your source of strength. And as you move forward, remember that you are not alone. You are part of a community of K to 12 graduates who share your experiences and your aspirations.

Once again, to all the graduates I would like to convey my warmest congratulations. You have accomplished so much, and you have so much potential. I encourage you to continue to work hard, to be resilient, and to make a positive impact in the world. You are the future, and I have no doubt that you will make it a brighter one.

In closing, let me acknowledge with pride and honor our living modern heroes-our dear teachers for their hard toil and never fading dedication and commitment. Similar felicitations to all our education stakeholders and education leaders and colleagues of this **PRIME Region**, National Capital Region.

Mabuhay!