

## School principals gather at leadership conference

REKINDLING a passion for teaching requires some time to think, a mentor to assist, and other people who share the enthusiasm.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation brought together select NCR elementary school principals for a two-weekend Leadership Enhancement and Development (LEAD) program at the Ateneo de Manila University social science building.

Education and management gurus were invited to help the participants rekindle their passion to lead their respective schools. Fr. Tito Caluag, SJ., former ADMU grade school headmaster, discussed leadership as a vocation during the first day of the workshop.

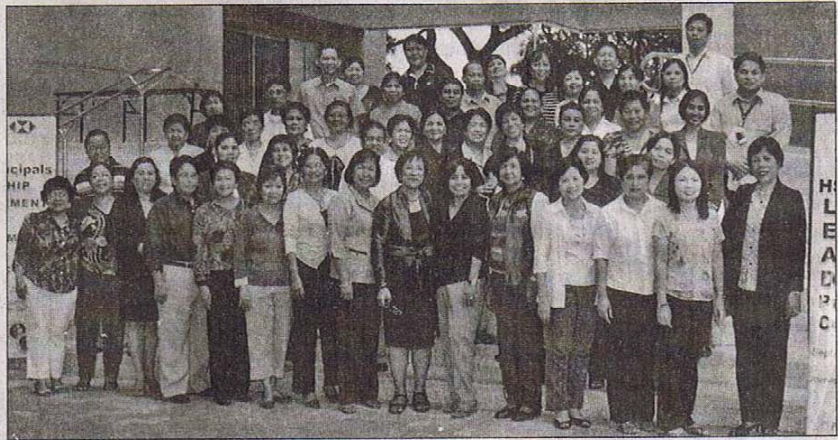
"It makes you feel that you can go back and follow your dream," says Ligaya Capco of Capt. H. Francisco Elementary School. "We were able to reconnect to our personal stories on how important being an educator is."

Dr. Fe Hidalgo, former DepEd OIC, challenged the principals to rethink their school

purpose on the second day of the conference. She guided the principals in formulating mission-vision statements and in listing down core values which define the identity of every school.

Principals were allowed to unleash their creativity while contemplating their visions. Like the pupils in their own schools,

they drew using crayons, dramatized their ideas, and even danced just for the sake of fun. "It feels good when we see hardworking principals letting their hair down. This is something we have to give to our teachers because they become more productive when given this kind of opportunity," says Dr. Hidalgo.



Participants of the Leadership Enhancement and Development program.