

# FROM CENTRO AND MEF: A GOOD WORD FOR ST. SCHO

To commemorate the National Environmental Awareness month, the City Environment and Natural Resources Office partnered with Mother Earth Foundation. They partnered to organize a School Administrators' Environmental Summit.

November 14 then saw around 112 Principals and administrators' representatives assembled at St. Scholastica's (San Fernando) High School AVR. Summoned by Dr. Esperanza Laya, Schools Division Superintendent, they were there to raise their level of awareness of environmental protection, preservation and sustainability.

Included in the program objectives was to "showcase the MRF (Materials Recovery Facility) of St. Scholastica's Academy and its litter-free and eco-friendly canteen" The visit to the MRF in a way satisfied the participants curiosity after the write-up on the SSA-SF school canteen published by Mother Earth Foundation on its book MEF@ 15 On the Road to Zero Waste.

In an interview, Sr. Delia Maria Singian, OSB recalled and shared her dream of a Benedictine canteen, where the core values of solidarity, stewardship and accountability are practiced. Impressed and delighted were the visitors during their observation of the Scholasticans at lunch time The children were queuing not only in buying food but also in going to the designated bins to segregate their left-over food and other waste materials, like bottles, boxes and paper. Into numbered receptacles they deposit their used plates and utensils. Tables are left clean and orderly.

The same observations were made by LGU members – 80 of them who came all the way from Nueva Vizcaya for look-see visits to model communities chosen, St. Scho one of them.

Next visitor expected is Senator Loren Legarda, who has already sent her staff ahead. She is eagerly awaited.

By: Sr. Lucy Togle, OSB

