



Mikaela Joy A. Grivialde

My name is Mikaela Joy A. Grivialde, 17 years old, and I was born on September 30, 2008 in Daet, Camarines Norte. I am a middle child of Diego B. Grivialde and Maricar A. Grivialde. I grew up with two brothers. My older brother, Judemar A. Grivialde, is in first year college, and my younger brother, Jierson A. Grivialde, is in Grade 10. I come from a hardworking family. My father works as a deliveryman, and my mother as an assistant in a clinic. Since childhood, I have been fond of Science, reading, and helping others, which has guided many of my choices in school and life.

I began my educational journey at Daet Elementary School. Elementary school was challenging for me. I was never among the top student and was placed in a lower section. I was frequently late, not out of laziness, but because I had to wait for my younger brother so we could travel to school together and save on tricycle fare.

It was never easy growing up and going through elementary school in a broken family. My mother worked tirelessly to provide for us, trying not only to earn enough to support our needs but also to be both a mother and father to us. Despite all of these, my mother tried her best to let me experience things she did not. She let me join theater arts, ballroom dancing, and acrylic painting class which were offered by the local government freely every summer break.

As early as grade 3, I also started selling hopia, candies, gummy bears, and ballpens in our school and helped my mother in the store where she was a saleslady back then. In the year 2020, I finished my elementary but did not have a graduation ceremony due to COVID. The pandemic taught me a lot. We had to live with my grandmother since my father got stranded in Manila and my mother worked as a maid in Cavite. Being the only girl, I was the one who handled the money, reported all the expenses to my mother, cooked the food, and guided my younger brother. These made me realize that life was tough and I need to be strong to face all the hardships, disappointments, and challenges.

In high school, it was here that I truly began to realize my potential. When I entered Grade 7, I earned the third highest score in the diagnostic test, which placed me in Section A and allowed me to become a science trainee. That experience gave me confidence to aim higher and push myself academically.

Over the years, I have also discovered talents I never knew I had. I accidentally discovered my passion for writing when I was asked to join a school writing competition because other students did not want to. From that moment, I began participating and winning several writing competitions outside our school, eventually representing Cavite in a regional writing competition.

Alongside my academic and personal growth, I have taken on leadership roles that strengthened my sense of responsibility and teamwork. I served as PIO external of the Supreme Student Government, became a dorm coordinator for 4 years, and later a helping sister, guiding and supporting other students. Through these experiences, I have learned the value of discipline, service, and perseverance, which continue to shape who I am today.

I am passionate about reading, roleplaying, competing in science and writing, exploring nature, and spending time with my friends. I value justice, integrity, compassion, and perseverance, and I always strive to live by these principles. Looking ahead, I hope to pursue a career in medicine because I want to create a meaningful impact on society. I aspire to continue learning, grow as a person, and use my skills and knowledge to help others.

My childhood was full of challenges but for me giving up was never an option. Instead, I used every challenge as a stepping stone to perform better and aim higher in life. Various opportunities and blessings also came in my stay in the Sisters of Mary School but the best thing that happened was when our family became whole again. Now, I am very dedicated to move forward and make progress. I used to just dream but now I am committed to make those dreams a reality through my perseverance and determination to be of help to the needy.