

# My Educational Journey

By Angelica Rubio

As I began my education years ago, I entered with high hopes. My future was bright and I was ready for the adventure. Somewhere along that journey, my promising future tumbled right before my eyes. It didn't happen over night; it was more of a slow deterioration of I everything I had dreamed of becoming.

Looking back on those early years, I remember who and what I once wanted to be. I was a typical child who dreamt of being a Veterinarian. It seems a little silly to me now, but then I believed it was within my grasp. I had all the potential to want to become anything I wanted because of all the effort and determination I put forth. It was amazing how learning came so natural to me even at this early age. I was always a straight a student and was very involved in my education.

Then, Junior High came along and I was so thrilled. I was ready for the bigger and better challenges that came along with it. Although it was a big transition from elementary I never once allowed it to prevent me from always giving 100%. While there, I explored my learning abilities, which ultimately led to many achievements and awards. So many people around me believed that if I continued on this path, I was sure to succeed in a college career. As my junior high years came to an end, I was ready for the next challenge – high school.

High school to me was a whole different ball game. In a way I guess you could say that I let the glamour of it all get the best of me. There were so many new things to experiences and I took the phrase, “have the time of your life” a little too literal. I used to think these four years were the best times of my life; boy how I was wrong! Somehow

my love for school became just one big social occasion for me. My grades quickly dwindled down to ones that I could never have imagined. I took a long, hard drop to the bottom of the pit; it was such a disappointing feeling. Towards the end I tried to make up for all the time lost, but I was a little too late. So, eventually I quit and let down all those people who for years believed so strongly in me. Overall, what hurt the most was letting me down. Deep down I still had faith that somewhere, somehow I would be somebody.

With all said and done, here I am today, a new Angelica who's ready to conclude that journey that I cut short so long ago. It may have taken me a little while, but I see it as better late than never. When I finally decided to start where I have left off I met someone who made me believe again. This woman not knowing anything about me had so much confidence in my ability. Today I am thankful for her faith. I am at a point in my life where all I want to do is succeed. I am so determined, it had become my passion. My whole educational experience to this point is a lesson learned. I hope to never look back at what I once was or could have been. Like the saying goes, "You live and you learn." My outlook now is to live and learn another day for my future.

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