From the desk of Maribel Zubieta-Diaz....

When I was 13 I had a clear picture in my head of what my life would be like. My father had promised me a yellow Volkswagen beetle. I was going to graduate and go to Universidad de Villanueva. I was going to get an MBA and open my own business. I was going to get married, have 3 children (2 girls and 1 boy), and live happily ever after. These ideas and dreams were real enough to me that I could see them and live them. Being an educator was not a part of these dreams.

Fifty years later I sit and look at my life knowing I never got my yellow VW bug (I drive a green Element with flower stickers.) I never got to attend Universidad de Villanueva or get an MBA or open my own business. I got married, had 2 girls – no boy. And as you know, education became my life. I sit and feel at peace and know fulfillment with what I have done. I have lived my own happily ever after.

It is not a mistake to plan ahead to do what we need to do in order to get where we want to be. Our 8th graders are looking forward to finding the right high school. Parents are looking for the right school for their preschoolers. We reexamine our goals and commitments for registration, and all of us touch the essence of the dreams we have for our children. Sometimes we concentrate so much on chasing those dreams, we overshadow the beauty of the moment – the NOW.

My life wasn't exactly what my 13-year-old dreams imagined, but it has been a blessing because I learned to relish what I have now. Live the NOW fully and you will find you have a past full of lessons and a future of fulfillment.

Many blessings,