A NEW WAY IN TEACHING SCIENCE SUBJECT AMIDST COVID-19, BATAAN SCIENCE CHANNEL

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As a teacher to students and as a mother to my children, I was quite puzzled on how can I help my students, even my children to have a meaningful learning despite of situation that we are facing through. The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically changed the world – knowingly that we personally experienced it in our country. As of this month - November, 415, 067 was recorded positive in the aforementioned virus (DOH, 2020). Due to the nature of this virus, specifically on how it is transmitted. It greatly affected not only the economic stability of our country but also the education sector. Moreover, many people – students, parents and other stakeholders cried for academic freeze due to the fear of COVID-19. However, the Department of Education was adamant in their decision that if we will have academic freeze it will not only significantly affect the lives of the students but also the economic status of the country in future. Thus, DepEd plotted their ways in the continuity of education in the midst of pandemic which latter calls new normal education. According to Llego (2020), Distance Learning refers to a learning modality in which instruction happens even with the difference geographical location of the teacher and the learners during teaching and learning process. Llego noted that this modality has three (3) types; Modular Distance Learning (MDL), Online Distance Learning (ODL), and TV/Radio-Based Instruction.

We are all familiar in the two latter learning modalities; MDL and ODL. Modular Distance Learning is an individualized instruction which allows learners enhance their independent learning style through the use of Self-Learning Modules (SLMs) provided by their teacher. While, Online Distance Learning focuses on maximizing various
technologies that has accessed through internet. Lastly, TV/Radio Based Instruction which technically the SLMs are converted to video lessons for Television-Based Instruction and Scripts for Radio Based Instruction. Congruently, DOST-SEI has this project prior to the spread of COVID-19 in our country; Science Explorer and nuLab buses.

The latter programs of DOST-SEI aim to bring experiential learning of science and technology to the students in the comfort of their community, however due to the fear of COVID-19 that is wide-spread in our country and due to prohibitions like limited mobility and observance of physical distancing, they think for a certain solution in extending the learning of Science and Technology to the students. DOST-SEI collaborated to DepED in enhancing STEM learning through their RadyoEskwela for Elementary students and TuklaSiyesya sa Eskwela for high school Students (Ducusin, 2020). The aforementioned programs were considered as a supplemental education resources that can be used both the teachers and learners for an effective education process even when they are not physically present inside the classroom.

As a Science teacher, I was very excited to know that DOST-SEI and DepEd collaborated to produce materials that can truly help me in extending my repertoire of teaching, In DepEd-Bataan, the office launched the first ever Bataan Science Channel last August 24, 2020 in accordance with the DepEd Memo CI-2020-00162 on the Suggested Strategies in Implementing Distance Learning Delivery Modalities (DLDM). This project of DepEd-Bataan really provides a new network and/or resource in helping the teachers, learners, and parents in delivering quality learning instruction in science lessons. The videos uploaded in Bataan Science Channel in Youtube and in its page in Facebook have significantly helped everyone in copiously understand various lessons in Science subject. This program continuously producing educational videos for more references for the benefits of each actor in the new normal set up of education.
We have different difficulties and/or struggles in dealing with the new normal education set up. However, the Department of Education will continuously widen its repertoire of teaching and learning strategies to provide quality education and build globally competitive citizen that will truly help us elevate our country’s status.

References:


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