ADAPTING INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO ENHANCE CREATIVITY IN VIRTUAL CLASSROOM

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Progress and change are indispensable and important processes of life. As Heraclitus, a Greek philosopher, puts it “The Only Constant Thing in Life is Change.” However, the present situation that is happening not only in our country but in the whole world as well, brings chaos to everyone because of the COVID 19 Pandemic. We are now under the so called “new normal, which means “a previously unfamiliar or atypical situation that has become standard, usual, or expected.”

The government agency that is greatly affected by this crisis is the Department of Education (DepEd). It has announced that there are different learning modalities that can be used in the virtual classroom for the school year 2020-2021. There will be no face to face classes; and no other than President Duterte himself, announced that the Congress and Senate bestowed him additional power of declaring the official opening of classes.

Upon the announcement of the use of the Blended Learning Modalities, teachers thought of using different innovative approaches to enhance creativity in a virtual classroom environments, from the traditional learning model to some of the most innovative and creative classrooms, to avoid boredom of students and to increase their achievement.

Teachers have the feeling of satisfaction when they have offered to students anything that gives a sense of creativity, for instance a webpage, a simple invention. Students in a virtual classroom need to learn by creating. It helps to synthesize information that brings joy and meaning into their educational experience in the virtual classroom.
Teachers must be patient and comfortable in students own pattern of learning. The ability of students to connect, grow and innovate not only with class content but also with each other. Teachers create the mood and tone of the regular classroom in the same way that virtual classroom must be just the same. This may lead to strong collaboration, exciting conversations that may lead to strong collaboration that might encourage leadership skills among students.

Teachers in the Virtual Classrooms may encourage whole group discussions, small groups working together, gathering peer feedbacks, use of problem-finding, let students take risks, invite experts and innovators into the virtual classroom through live interaction or through virtual means like Google Classroom and the like. Teachers may just be surprised how many creative innovators are looking to give back to youth.

The following approaches can be a great help for a creative classroom: Everyday, the teacher may post a challenge and then think of ways how this challenge may be approached by students. Teachers must see to it that students learned something new every day and must learn how to interpret it. Persuade students to create something new and convince them to find ways how to evolve it. All of these approaches are ways to form innovation and inspire creativity in the classroom. Innovation and creativity in virtual classrooms are not far behind, it can begin with you.

References: