Are you also one of the millions of individuals who still can’t believe that this pandemic could come this far?

Everything that we used to do “normally” was forbidden. All of our plans were cancelled. We are obliged to stay inside our residence until everything will get back to normal. Safety health protocols were implemented to at least control the spread of the death-dealing virus.

According to Republic Act No. 9155, otherwise known as “Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001”, the school shall be the heart of the formal educational system. It is where children learn. Schools shall have a single aim of providing the best possible basic education for all learners.

But because of this pandemic education was greatly affected. Face to face classes were unable to be done due to possible transmission. The opening of classes was deferred to several dates and the last is on October 5 due to the increasing number of active cases. And to still continue providing quality education blended learning was introduced by the Department of Education (DepEd).

Blended learning or distance learning is a modality where learning takes place between the teacher and learners despite the distance from each other geographically during the instruction. It can be modular through the use of modules crafted by the teachers as well as education experts based on the needs and abilities of the learners. Online delivery platforms like the DepEd Commons as well as digitized lessons was
developed as a new method of transmitting learning for learners and teachers. TV/Radio based instruction is also an option to those who have no internet connection where teacher broadcasters showcase their talents in doing educational programs.

Since it is a home-schooling type not only the learners nor the school personnel must be prepared but also their parents and guardians. This new normal in education will be better if it is a shared activity. We educators ask the parents as well as the community to support and be part in building a better future for the future of our nation. As President Duterte said," the future of this country depends on how we educate our young people nowadays".

We all cannot tell up to now when this virus will stop spreading not until a proven and tested vaccine will be made. But if we work hand in hand; the school, home and community in helping our children cope with these innovative learning modalities perhaps we could have a better new normal in education.

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