The educational system at present is facing an extensive challenge and this is primarily because of the Covid-19 Pandemic. The deadly virus keeps everyone aware of what is happening around us. If the situation is normal as usual, the enrolment shall be around 27 million, taking the last year’s enrolment from the public and private schools enrolment as the basis. But the enrolment rate dwindled, since many are still in a quandary of enrolling or not enrolling this coming school year.

Another concern of teachers, parents and students is the start of the school year. The Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary Leonor M. Briones, initially announced the opening of classes as August 24, 2020. However, many claimed for the extension of the opening of classes which was moved to October 5, 2020.

Apparently, many are still apprehensive of this date as the opening of classes this school year due to the still existing Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) and other places with the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ). Parents are still confused if they will allow their children with a face to face mode of learning if the situation calls for it.

Similarly, another significant concern is the learning modalities to be used by the learners. Will it be a virtual classroom, modular approach or TV-Radio instruction. As of this writing, modules are delivered to different schools. Teachers are printing more copies so that every respective school shall receive sufficient copies for their students.
Consequently, teachers are aware that parents may help their children in doing their modular tasks to facilitate the work of their children.

In terms of virtual classroom platforms, online learning is one of the most recommended, however, teachers, parents and students in remote or far-flung areas immediately reacted to this, saying that they don’t have access to some forms of technology. Problems on lack of gadgets and internet connection are another concerns. Some students do not even have a cellular phone.

For the general public a stable future for the DepEd remains to be elusive because of the uncertainty of COVID-19 pandemic vaccine. However, we may support each other for the achievement of learners quality education by establishing different remedies for this present situation, up to time that we may adjust to the new normal with ready and healthy teachers and students.

References:
Lie, Crystal 2020, Major Issues in Education: 20 Hot topics (From Grade School to College)