CHALLENGES OF TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

by:

Merceñita D. Diwa
Samal National High School

Professional Development generally refers to on-going learning opportunities available to teachers. Effective professional development is seen as increasingly vital to school success and teacher’s satisfaction. A well-trained teacher is the greatest factor in predicting student achievement more than materials, written curriculum and even class size. Improving the expertise of teacher’s result in far greater gain in students learning than do investment in test, materials or programs. Every proposal to reform, restructure or transform schools emphasizes professional development as the primary vehicle in efforts to bring about needed change. To meet the goals of reform, teachers must make changes from the core of what it means to teach and learn. That’s why DepEd has stressed the need for teachers to be able to enhance and build on their instructional knowledge.

Teachers should always remember a fact that teacher’s training cannot top on their graduation from college. One may ask “Why didn’t teachers learn what they need to know for a lifetime of teaching during just a few years in college”. Some of most important lessons can be learned only after they have their own students.

But it’s no secret that many teachers view the professional development “programs” – those characterized by sustained, coherent study, collaborative learning, time for classroom experimentation and follow-up. It’s good to give teachers the depth of knowledge to meet student’s diverse and changing needs.
References:

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