Due to the prevalence of computers, Senate President Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III now wants the Department of Education to include teaching code, also known as computer programming in elementary schools. He stated from the article that coding is now an essential skill due to the prevalence of computers in our daily lives. Coding should be likened to reading, writing, and arithmetic, and not just as a career option. Pimentel said as well that coding can also improve the school’s performance in Mathematics, Science and Technology; also there are skills like perseverance and patience that students could develop that they might apply in any field of their studies. (Orellana, 2017) Early exposure to coding helps teach children how important it is to understand computers as the valuable tools they are rather than merely fun playthings. “Even if you don’t have a classroom full of future computer programmers, learning the fundamentals of coding provides students with skills that will serve them well in virtually any career they choose.” (Harrell, 2015) In addition, John Porter stated that Computer coding is the universal language of the planet. (Porter, 2016) People who know how to code will be able to communicate across countries and cultures, be innovative, and solve problems more efficiently, with no barriers to impede their success. Solving everyday problems and getting set up for a lifetime of opportunities are just some of the things that might be developed by learning this new skill at a young age.

Coding or Programming is not only a skill or knowledge that can be used by the students who dreams of being a computer engineer, software engineer or skilled computer programmer but rather it is beneficial for it could help students in their other subject and
for their succeeding years of studying. It is also seen that this new skill can improve soft skills for our young students like perseverance and problem-solving. In addition, coding can be beneficial for those students who were struggling in reading and mathematics. In coding or programming, children can have creative and fluid minds that allow them to think outside the box or in a more critical thinking way. The current generation of children will need to be literate in technology in order to be competitive in their futures. Not knowing how to code will be actually comparable to not knowing how to read. Most jobs require the knowledge of basic computer or software skills.

In utilizing the available resources in school, one-is-to-one is not necessary. Meaning, one computer for each student is not necessary because according to an article by Harrell, Coding is a language which involves logic and problem solving, so working in pairs or group is actually a great way to increase production, develop collaboration skills, and allow children the opportunity to take on different roles in a partnership or groupings. It is on the teacher’s strategy on how she can manage the available resources for the students. (Harrell, 2015)

If computer programming or coding will be added in elementary curriculum in Philippines, it will increase student’s performance not only in Technology but also in Mathematics, Science and English. If Philippines will be given the chance to implement computer coding or programming as part of curriculum in elementary students, it would probably be a great benefit for the students. In Philippine context, the resources of computers may be very limited especially those who are in remote areas, however, if teachers will become more dedicated in helping kids to experience more advance and new ways of learnings, then we should start moving.
References:
