COVID-19 PANDEMIC ELEVATES 21ST CENTURY
TEACHING PRACTICE
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On December 2019, Wuhan, China, confirmed the first case of coronavirus disease, Covid-19, officially. March 2020 was a turning point of the country – Philippines, due to lockdown implemented by the government many Filipino, even I as a public teacher, became anxious about what will happen this coming school year. The Covid-19 pandemic has given us a massive social experiment, and we, as a concern citizen, have a moral and ethical responsibility to understand current happenings.

We are all aware about the preparations of the Depart of Education in the opening of the new academic year, it is very commendable that they inserted lot of efforts in collating all the necessary information that they need just to use those data as their basis for the continuity of education amidst pandemic. According to Llego (2020), Opening a new school year does not necessarily mean traditional classroom set-up or face-to-face instruction. Physical access depends on the grading or designation of the danger of any population according to the guidelines of the Department of Health (DOH), Inter-Agency Agency Task Force (IATF) and the Office of the President (OP). Moreover, he draws line about the learning modalities that we can apply based on the needs and/or capabilities of the students for the continuity of learning.

But let us focus on the Online Distance Learning (ODL), let us now sort some strategies that will help us transforming the traditional teaching and learning process – face to face learning to a remote learning. Mahmood (2020) discussed some instructional strategies that we, teachers, can use for the continuity of education focusing on the ODL. The teacher's voice is one of the influential components of online teaching. Having a high voice pitch and a vocal working including pauses is important for strength variation. Online teachers must concentrate more on their speech and voice roles in online teaching. Teachers should know the importance of slow speech and vocal performance. Hence, this will ensure that students are taught successfully online. Furthermore, greater online interactivity would improve the overall success rate of the online class. One way to improve students’ engagement in lectures online is to impost students’ participation. In addition, discussion of cases and questions that are relevant and current in the society will lead
to greater participation of students, because they can feel the connection and importance of their learning to their lives. This technique would promote the presence of students and strengthen learning skills. Teachers may delegate real-world case studies to learners. Then, students will present their thoughts and views. This activity helps to build students’ skills and increase the success rate of online study. Therefore, teachers should plan preliminary lectures and share students’ case and questions. Lastly, Not all students have a high speed internet connection, as a result, students may face difficulty in running some requirement online. In dealing such issue, teacher should be versatile to resolve such problems like low speed internet connection and provide students some solutions or even give them extra time. Through giving them ample time, it allows students feel your care and sincerity for their education and development. Teachers should be trained not to pressure students knowing that we are in the middle of pandemic. Rather, teachers should provide full support to students. This assistance can be given in late access to online lectures and submissions.

As a 21st century teacher, we must look on the brighter side of this pandemic. This is the start of the real new normal education. We must be equip in teaching online. The aforementioned techniques are just some of the things that we can incorporate to make our online teaching and learning process effective. This pandemic gives us the reason to elevate and move forward to the traditional way of teaching.

https://www.teacherph.com/deped-learning-delivery-modalities/

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