DEPED COMMONS FOR EVERYONE

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DepEd Commons, an online platform, initially created to cater the needs of public-school learners, now expanded its availability to all schools that offer basic education.

According to the department, this online platform aims to accelerate the education of school children whose classes were suspended because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Last March 17, 2020, a day after President Rodrigo Duterte declared Luzon under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ), the Department of Education formally launched an online learning portal, which they called DepEd Commons. The said platform was developed for public school teachers; however, a press release in the 8th of April 2020 informed that the DepEd Commons are now made available for private school learners and Alternative Learning System (ALS). According to an interview, DepEd stated that the platform is authored by public school teachers who are subject experts, properly cited and acknowledged.

DepEd Undersecretary for Curriculum and Instruction, Diosdado San Antonio, stated that the launching of this online portal was a big step in looking for alternative ways of continuous education for all types of learners. Amid the challenges that the country’s education is facing, DepEd Commons is one among the solution that doesn’t require face-to-face interaction.

To access the site, one needs to have an internet connection. This poses a dilemma for not all have the liberty to an internet. In support to this, parents and teachers are encouraged to invest time and effort for knowledge and education is a life-long investment.
DepEd Commons offers online review materials and Open Educational Resources (OERs). These educational materials serve as a bridge that supports the standards of the K-12 Curriculum. The access to these materials needs the providing of necessary information. It includes school’s name, school’s number, and the school type. Lastly, one’s name, status (i.e. as a student or as a teacher), and email address are also needed. Once registered, the selection of grade level will flash on the screen. It is now the time to choose the grade level that you are teaching if you are a teacher, or the level that you’re currently enrolled if you are a student.

DepEd Commons gives a vast variety of instructional materials ranging from traditional to digital tools. It provides educational videos for students to ponder on and educational apps to work on. It also includes teacher’s guides which help for the betterment of teachers.

The usage of DepEd Commons started as a solution for the challenges that our country is facing today. From its soft launch last to its formal launching, it already has 2,345,183 users. The data itself showed the teachers’ and students’ utmost support, and undeniably, their willingness to learn.

References:

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