EDUCATION BEFORE AND DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

by:
Luisa D. Figuracion
Teacher III, Pag-Asa Elementary School

What do we do now?

Many of us in the teaching profession has this question in our minds as we struggle with the move to a digital classroom, which is so far away from what we are normally doing – teaching our students in the physical classroom, where, teaching and learning process takes place in a way that we used to be.

But of course, as teachers, as we all are, we need to be flexible and cope up with the demands of the so-called “New Normal School Year”.

Who would have thought that this will happen in just a snap? That… in just a snap the normal setting in which we can teach our students to face to face will turn out to be teaching them facing the screen.

There are lots of differences between education before and during the pandemic.

To mention a few of the differences, first, students need to have their gadgets and internet connectivity to be able to attend their classes while, then, all they must do is to report physically in school and meet their teachers on their scheduled time.

Second, students’ performance can easily be assessed by their teachers, but now how could we possibly assure that our students are the ones answering our exams. In the new normal, cheating is very much possible, but of course, we need to trust the process that we are in right now.
Third, is the time allotted per subject area. In consideration of the health and safety of our students, their time allotment for online learning sessions was lessened, their screen time was limited, for it can damage their eyes. As such, synchronous and asynchronous learning was implemented for that very purpose.

These are just some of the borderlines of the New Normal from the Normal setting of education in our country now.

As a teacher, I know how much of a challenge is to be a teacher in this new normal. Just to deliver quality instruction to our learners, we, teachers use all possible resorts to realize that. But as teacher, we should be the hope of our children to do better despite this pandemic.

Our influence as a teacher lingers to our children and let us use that to inspire them. Let us teach them how to be resilient. Let us teach them how to be determined. Let us teach them to be HOPEFUL and to TRUST our Almighty God, that this too shall pass.

Education must continue and let us all keep in mind the Department of Education’s mantra “Sulong EduKalidad!”

References:

