HOME STUDIES AND FACING LAPTOPS: THE ‘NEW NORMAL’

by:

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Before then, non-stop noise, laughter, and storytelling is just a normal scenario in classrooms. Greetings of ‘Mabuhay’ welcomes Teachers, hugs and kisses too. These things have to be stepped aside for now, until it gets back to normal. As the world stopped for a bit, our lives froze. The pandemic became our anxiousness every new day arrives. And we are hoping to get better from the protocols given by the government. Many businesses were affected. Many lives were threatened for they who runs for their family have their works paused. This generation’s education is at stake too. A hot topic right now is how will students cope up for the new system of learning —‘New Normal’ as they say.

One highly debated option is having online classes, many junks the option because most of the students were not able to afford laptops or smartphones or even stable internet connection. Also, news flooded that many students took risks for their lives, such as climbing trees for data connection, or worse, selling their bodies, even pictures, to justify the eagerness to provide oneself a technological device that can be used in this pandemic.

This situation not only affected students, but teachers, too. It is a big weight to do such job of making modules abruptly to cope with students’ educational needs. Unlike the common classroom setting, teaching in an environment of learners in a classroom. Another option given is the academic freeze until a vaccine is developed to fight against the virus. Magsambol (2020) emphasized that the Department of Education seeks to implement non-traditional learning strategies. At the same time, students will still learn
from these alternative methods. Activities, textbooks, etc. at home will be provided. From black boards to laptops. From face-to-face, to virtual. From oral recitations, surprise quizzes, moving tests, to modular activities at home.

This is a new environment for the learners of our century. Nothing is the same as before. Education cannot be set aside, as we battle the enemy, perseverance is a must. Through these trying times, we may not be able to adjust that fast, but slowly. We can embrace the ‘New Normal’ for the sake of EDUCATION.

References: