JUST ANOTHER CHALLENGE

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Social media were initially became popular as an online tool to express thoughts and get in touch with loved ones whom are apart, but as times passed by, the functionality of these social media kept on evolving and became more personalized. More functions were materialized for more people.

After the transition to modular distance learning, the country’s educational system had also greatly changed. Several adjustments were made to continuously reach students and to ensure the delivery of quality of education, and these adjustments centered on the utilization of technology and social media.

Vaughn Alviar on his article published in Inquirer.Net cited that almost 90% of teachers today turned to social media as they course through modular learning modality. It is for the reason that teachers want to keep communication with students open for necessary updates and announcements and to ensure that learning has a follow through. But more than these. Alviar also wrote that using social media aids teachers to make ideas and concepts being though more interesting and engaging.

Teachers’ use of social media range from simple purposes to crucial ones. Teachers particularly make use of social media on a daily basis by maintaining communication with students through messenger group chats. Instantly messenger became the most used messaging application because of the number of its users. Since modular learning started, teachers created group chats for easy reach to students. Also, teachers inside the academe communicate with one another mostly via messenger.
More than the communication purposes, teachers also make use of social media to ensure that learning has a follow through. Teachers understand that personal differences are present even among students and that students have varying learning styles. The situation therefore demands teachers to variate their learning styles not just to adapt with the situation but also to anchor teaching technique to every students’ learning style.

How do teachers use social media then as a follow through for teaching? Aside from checking if students understood the lessons discussed in the modules, teachers would also address concerns on clarity of lessons or competencies by making virtual teaching presentation which are published over Facebook or Youtube. These virtual teaching presentations are recorded videos showcasing teachers facilitating learning in front of a camera. Making virtual teaching presentations is a no joke since this task requires a lot of patience more than expertise in technology, but teachers often resort to this to make sure that concepts and ideas are being discussed thoroughly through videos.

Another way of utilizing technology and social media in today’s educational system is through the holding of online classes through Zoom and Google Classroom as the widely used applications. These actions are of, course with high consideration to the number of students who do not have access to internet connection. Online classrooms serve as teachers’ avenue in meeting students for a more productive teaching and learning process as teachers can ask questions to students which can eventually spark sensible discussions.

The country’s educational system had taken a leap of faith by resorting to technology and social media in the delivery of education. This is a bold move as teachers will be asked to adapt to the so called digital age wherein transactions can all be done through online, right at the comfort of everyone’s home. But teachers are naturally survivors. Today’s situation is just another battle that will be soon won over by teachers, a challenge that teachers will always be pondering on while rallying quality education among 21st century learners during a health crisis.
References:

Alviar, V. (2019). Technology is Not a Threat but Teachers Have to Adapt. Retrieved July 05, 2021 from https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/698656/technology-is-not-a-threat-but-teachers-have-to-adapt