MODULAR DISTANCE LEARNING: SUITED FOR UPLAND AND FAR-FLUNG SCHOOLCHILDREN

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“Stop being afraid of what could go wrong, and start being excited of what could go right”

— Tony Robbins

Without educating ourselves, our initial reactions might be far different from what we perceive in mind after we understand things clearer. One’s viewpoint may be different from the crowd and vice-versa. At first, the Department of Education’s initiative to set the school opening was condemned by a number of netizens. When the department disclosed the modalities, some understood that education is still possible. While at present, there are parents who need orientation as regards to this matter, we school heads are responsible to inform them the possibilities of distance learning.

Clearly, our present situation calls for distance learning for physical interaction is not advisable. Given the features of these modalities, distance learning is the best choice in order to deliver instruction while protecting the schoolchildren.

Distance learning is a modality where learners are given materials whether hard or soft copies. TV, radio or online means of learning are included under this modality wherein the teacher monitors the progress of his or her pupils. As every educator thinks of the best type of distance learning to implement in their respective stations, I also took some time to ponder. How about my pupils at Pastolan Village wherein they do not have internet connection? Most of them do not have gadgets too. With these in view, Modular Distance Learning is the best choice.
As far Modular Distance Learning (MDL) is concerned, the following must be taken into account:

The school orients the teachers, parents and learners about the modular learning policies and directions to ensure that everyone is properly informed and guided.

The school has complete and appropriate content (Learning Modules/Self-Learning Modules in print and e-copy for those with device) for Quarter 1 available for distribution to learners.

The school has available reference/supplementary materials for distribution to the learners.

The parents have expressed willingness for the option of modular distance learning for their children.

The parents are willing to co-supervise and co-monitor the progress of their children’s modular distance learning.

MDL is best suited in the community I am serving. Pastolan Elementary School is located in a far-flung barangay where pupils have no stable internet connection and more than half of them do not possess digital materials/gadgets for online learning. Based on my analysis, modules can be a great help for the learners. They only need assistance from their parents and guardians and teachers via possible means of communication.

No doubt, we might encounter problems as regards to its implementation. Also, we cannot make it all by ourselves. We need everybody’s support to win this battle. With parents, community leaders, volunteers, donors and the local and provincial government units, we will continue to pursue the DepEd’s initiative. We will educate our learners because even it is so challenging, we still can.
References:

NON-NEGOTIABLE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR DISTANCE LEARNING MODALITIES

Learning Delivery Modalities Course for Division and School Leaders

National Educators Academy of the Philippines, Department of Education, 2020