OLC: A SOLUTION OR AN OPTION?

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In the Philippines, education has always been important. It's always been difficult to provide education especially to the less privileged. This year, we face a new challenge due to the pandemic and it has a significant effect to education. Interaction between students and teachers is now very limited to online classes. Common problems occur either due to poor internet connection or malfunctioning servers. Some students don’t have any gadget or equipment which they need for online activities. Teachers who are new to online learning also find it difficult to adjust their approach. Will this OLC platform provides a temporary solution? Or will it lower the quality of education?

One week after the suspension of classes, Universities moved all classes and activities. Classes were supposed to resume once the pandemic is no longer a threat to the public. But as the number of cases increased, quarantine period has extended to keep it under control. Different platforms such as zoom, canvas, and blackboard are now used for online classes. In the initial days, there have been a lot of complaints coming from the students and teachers.

Parents are also concerned with how well their children are doing. If they are getting the same quality of education through online learning. Some schools have taken considerations and suspended any submission of requirements. This is to give time and allow the students to adjust to the new normal.

In the province especially in remote areas, children don’t have access to online class. They are now under modular learning approach. It means that they have to learn on their own especially if they don’t have any resources other than books. According to
Ms. Gaila Paquibot, an elementary teacher from Dapa Surigao Del Norte. It is difficult especially for the teachers not to have an interaction with the students. They are concerned about the students welfare during this quarantine period.

In addition, they have to schedule a home visit to explain to them how their studies will take place. They have to inform the parents on how they can help their children, and when will they submit their outputs. “It’s risky for us to visit our students since some of them live in across the river. We have to ride a boat to give them the books and the assigned modules” she added.

While some consider online learning to require a greater degree of self-motivation, institutions recognize that educational support is just as important as tutor feedback, and take great care to ensure that their students receive the same levels of support that they would receive on campus.

Online learning is the only option now for learning as it is still not safe to leave the house. On the bright side, it offers an opportunity for students to learn the value of research. Still, it is important to have consultations between the students and their teachers. Now that student-based learning is enhanced, it gives them an opportunity to learn on their own. Learning doesn’t stop outside the classroom, as long as there are resources and a proper mind set, learning is possible even online.

References:

https://www.educations.com/study-guides/study-online/