PRIORITIZING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AUTHENTIC LEARNING

by:
Leilani L. Cabigting

Schools have been closed for more than a year here in the Philippines. Apart from academics, educational programs and student assessment, how can teachers keep students motivated, committed and engaged? Indeed, this Coronavirus 19 pandemic has raised important questions about the necessity, importance and usefulness of certain curriculum content.

It pointed out the relevance of certain trends, including the authenticity of learning situations. This calls for flexibility and individualized learning opportunities for students. Upon this point, the learning experiences arising from this pandemic may serve to contextualize student realities during this event. This may give the opportunity to rethink curriculum content and approaches.

In this regard, parents can use their children's experiences during the pandemic as a starting point for learning activities, especially in writing and problem solving. Some of these activities may include:

In learning language subjects, use critical thinking skills to write an essay about the credibility of a given source of information;

In a science subject, understand the factors that affect the physical and chemical reaction by creating delicious foods in their home's kitchen.

Nowadays, educating students could be a challenge for teachers and parents of these students as before. They have to take on such a genuine challenge to make the student happy and excited to tackle such an activity. Authenticity in education would be
a very relevant approach for teachers and parents for student learning despite on-line classes.

And to this day, prolonged school closures have been a tremendous disruption for many of our students. This situation shows that learning can continue through distance education. There is no physical presence of students in schools to keep them safe, so students use any digital means to study. With the help of technology, many students have been able to continue their academics during the school closure and maintain their social connection.

Teachers and parents need to play a supportive role for their students who may have been affected by the pandemic. For example, anxiety and compromising their desire to learn. It is therefore essential to establish positive relationships among teachers, parents and students in order to facilitate adaptation to the current pandemic.

References:

https://www.purdueglobal.edu/blog/online-learning/4-challenges-facing-online-learners/