We are finally done with the three quarters of this Pandemic School Year 2020-2021 where we all seemed to have started uncertain and half-convinced on how to go about the teaching and learning process during this time.

Every member of the education field – from the administrators to the teachers, learners, parents and the community struggled during the first few weeks of the implementation of the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) especially on the new modality of learning through the modular print instruction alongside with Radio-Based Instruction and all other modalities, the use of which would depend much on the availability of resources and infrastructure.

The DepEd community has been in the spotlight on the different media platforms because of the errors and inefficiencies of the self-learning modules (SLM’s) and other learning materials distributed nationwide. Teachers have become the topic of the many memes and bashing on the typographical, conceptual and factual flaws of the said modules not to mention the problems with the delivery and distribution of the copies. Needless to say, the teaching community was put on public ridicule for quite sometimes.

Besides the issues on the SLM’s, the social media, especially Facebook, Twitter and even Tiktok have become the stage in displaying the complaints and struggles of home learning and the difficulties that home learning facilitators have experienced while teaching the learners at home.
All these, we have experienced while exerting the best effort to keep ourselves and our families safe from the threats and scares of the COVID 19 virus as we tried to continue carrying out our duties and responsibilities as teachers and administrators.

Parents have made the biggest complaints of not being able to facilitate home learning as planned because they would find their children not following what they say or not paying attention when they teach or not cooperating but would rather choose to play around than study – same things we experience in a classroom setting yet we would victoriously win them to cooperate in the end. After all, we have our ways to win their attention and make them want to learn.

Sad fate was that - the community must have forgotten that we, too, have children to facilitate home learning as they do.

However, as we started out the last quarter of the school year, things have become more peaceful and bearable.

Social media and other platforms have become quiet and peaceful with matters regarding the DepEd, teachers and the print modules. Complaints and issues have started to drop, and many parents have begun to realize the essence of being a teacher – the struggles in keeping and teaching a class and in disciplining the learners in such a way that they can optimize the benefits of learning.

All sectors in the education field have learned to manage the “new normal” of teaching and learning. Everyone seems to have adapted themselves to the new modalities of learning, thus making the work easier and less stressful.

While it is true that we really cannot demand the quality of teaching and learning during this pandemic, but at least, we continue to fight our way towards delivering “survival education” at this time. We may not be able to assure at least 75% quality of
learning for this school year, but a minimal percentage of learning would be so much better than 0% learning at all.

Moving forward to the next quarter of the school year, for now we can say that we have somehow achieved improvement in our delivery of teaching and learning. Struggle is real but let us be positive that we can continue to maximize all our efforts to carry out School Year 2020-2021 – para sa bata at para sa bayan.

References:

Deped Order 012, s. 2020
Adoption of the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan for School Year 2020-2021 in the Light of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency