Teachers are still seeking answers to one of the oldest questions in education which is: How do we prepare learners for the future? This question is followed up with, what are the critical skills teachers must possess to teach successfully in this modern age? These are two essential and timely questions due to reforms in education are being employed and more pedagogies are being explored in teaching. The Covid-19 pandemic served as a catalyst in reshaping education in the Philippines. With the restrictions due to lockdowns, the Department of Education implemented remote learning and it has different modalities. There is also a demand with the use of modern technology such as computers and software. This poses a challenge for teachers who are not used in using and incorporating technology in teaching. But this is also a great opportunity to learn new skills.

Technology is only a piece of the puzzle in quality education. When integrated in education effectively, technology offers a lot of benefits. It provides access to education inside and outside the school. Systems with high-quality data can result to efficient learning management making sure that it will lead to student accountability and learning outcomes. Learning competencies which are internationally benchmarked can facilitate quality education across different language and location. Accurate analysis of assessments in learning can be generated through technology. More importantly, it can transform the teaching profession. Teachers’ pedagogy can be enhanced through technology (All4Ed, 2010).
Teachers are adjusting to the new normal in education. Young teachers who are tech-savvy and knowledgeable in mobile applications and software experiences less pressure in transitioning to distance and online learning.

There are emerging teaching practices because of the Covid-19 crisis. Educational institutions are adopting video conferencing for meetings and online learning sessions and electronic learning management systems for delivery of instruction (Marquez, 2020). Teachers are adjusting to the new normal in education. Young teachers who are tech-savvy and knowledgeable in mobile applications and software experiences less pressure in transitioning to distance and online learning. Older teachers are having difficulties with the use of software and applications in teaching but still they are trying their best to adapt in the new normal. Some teachers do not have gadgets and internet connectivity to monitor the progress of their students. They must be available for almost twenty-four hours every day. This is very important because teachers need to be readily available for queries and concerns not only from the students but also from the parents (Lacson, 2020).

The success of distance learning heavily relies on the teachers, parents, and technology. Throughout the transition phase, teachers must collaborate by sharing best practices that can be used in various modalities of distance learning. Discuss issues and challenges in open conversations and provide of a concrete solution. With the help of the local government, provision of gadgets such as laptop, pocket Wi-Fi, papers and printers will be a big help. These are ways on how to increase effectivity and productivity of teachers in this new normal setting.

Despite of these challenges, creativity and resourcefulness of teachers are being highlighted in this time of crisis. Giving up is not a major characteristic of a teacher. Teachers are always striving hard to help learners and ensure that they are doing well. Teachers should be recognized for their efforts, passion and dedication. With this, people must show gratitude to teachers for making education still possible even in difficult times.
References:


