TEACHERS ARE OVERWHELMED, TOO!

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With the developments and changes in the lives of people in all the corners of the Earth, everybody seems to be caught unaware, unprepared and overwhelmed. Many of us are finding it difficult to adjust to the new norms of life – with all the face masking and later face shielding, social distancing, sanitizing and other health and safety protocols we all must undertake to keep us safe and healthy. A lot of people persevere to cope with the alternative work arrangements, skeletal workforce and work from home which are better than being laid off due to business recession and economic decline.

In the field of education, work atmosphere has also changed dramatically. No more teachers lecturing or demonstrating the lesson in front of the classroom or roaming around while the pupils are taking examinations. No more group work and individual activities comprising various performance tasks. No more parent-teachers conferences where attendance is a must and is properly documented. A lot of common and usual happenings are not possible at this time due to the precautions we all must undertake because of the threats of the COVID 19 Pandemic.

Teachers, too, are overwhelmed with all these changes.

The work from home scheme, though for some, may sound like a vacation since you are literally at home working, may not be as comfortable as others may think. There are work that can be easily accomplished at home, but other tasks may require all other materials, documents and forms which are at school, so it becomes more difficult working when not everything you need is within your reach.
Though the school opening has been reset, teachers have never ceased to make the necessary preparations for the school year 2020-2021. Teachers need to study how the different learning modalities work so they can accurately provide information to parents and learners during the remote enrolment and the orientation for Learning Delivery Modality implementation. Teachers need to take a closer study on the conduct of the modular print delivery of instruction since the present pandemic situation still does not make face-to-face learning possible. This modular print instruction may be undertaken side by side with online learning for learners with access to gadgets and internet connectivity. These delivery modes are “new” to all the teachers. The challenges of these learning deliveries may be fully experienced as the school year opens soon.

Teachers need to prepare themselves – study and learn strategies on how to maximize learning using the modular print or even online instruction. They also need to provide intervention materials in case learners may not fully understand and perform the tasks in every module. Teachers also need to make sure that they are visible and accessible to their learners each and every time they need help in their lessons – one thing that they will have to strategize about – how to attend to learners’ teaching and learning needs when physical distancing is being enforced.

Teachers, too, are overwhelmed! The public also needs to understand the hardships and stress that teachers are going through at this point just to continue to serve and answer to the call of duty.
References:

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