TEACHERS’ NEW NORMAL VOCATION

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It’s no secret that teaching is a vocation. It’s a vocation only people with a complete package of patience, perseverance, commitment, hardwork, and love for one’s neighbour and country can embrace. This time of pandemic, this profession demands a whole new different level of vocation—one that demands more from teachers...

More efforts. In this time of pandemic that face-to-face classes are not an option to deliver learning, teachers have to stretch all their efforts to ensure that learning continues thru all available means. This includes preparation of learning resources, both printed and non-printed, distribution and retrieval of modules, checking and recording of learning outputs and online teaching which also demands lots of efforts to accomplish.

More time. The time allotment for work almost doubled. This is due to the fact that teachers engage to work more than 8 hours a day, including weekends and holidays. There are so many things to accomplish that a teacher is forced to work overtime to avoid getting loaded with unfinished paperwork. In addition, teachers have to communicate with the parents from time to time, which steals their moments for themselves and for their families.

More money to spend. While the government provides budget for the needed supplies, teachers are still taking money out of their own pocket to buy the supplies they need in order to prepare the necessary learning resources to be distributed to the pupils. In addition, teachers have to pay higher bills for their household utilities since they are working from home.
More sacrifice. This corresponds to mental, physical and psychological health of teachers being tested with a lot of pressure and challenges. Stress is teacher’s number 1 enemy since then, it is now made worse with a lot of things including internet connection, issues and concerns from parents and the community and anxiety and uncertainty over what lies ahead.

Despite all these, teachers remain strong and resilient. They still perform their duties well and bring light to the learners in this dark and trying times. Teaching is a vocation, and teachers will always have more and more to share if it’s for the benefit of the youth and of the country.

References: