TEACHERS’ SHIFT IN THE NEW NORMAL

by:
Maricel P. Dela Cruz
Master Teacher I, Hermosa Elementary School - Annex

COVID-19 has changed the world in all perspective. It has developed fear and anxiety to each and everyone. It may sound ridiculous, but the Pandemic has taught the world to slow down, be open to changes and to stay at home. And its most important lesson that leads the world is the power of prayer.

The emergence of COVID-19 Pandemic has made a big shift in Philippine Educational System; from the curriculum, instructional materials, mode of teaching and the school setting. It is very evident that education has hit hard by the pandemic. In this situation, the coping mechanism of the learning facilitator, the teachers, is challenged. The struggles in planning and preparing the lesson, mode of teaching, monitoring of learner’s progress, checking and evaluating of output, and feedbacking are the aspects a teacher has shifted and tested his/her flexibility and versatility.

The modification of Kto12 Curriculum to Most Essential Learning Competencies (MELCs) has changed the face of teaching in all its areas. School year 2020-2021 was a huge shift to teacher. The most used mode of teaching is Modular Distance Learning (Printed) and it made the teachers sleepless nights of planning and preparing to be made available before the school year start. Then follows the remote enrollment where teachers are tasked to enroll learners thru text, chat messages or barangay assistance. The distribution and retrieval of Self-Learning Modules (SLMs) bridges the gaps in the educational process and its heart is monitoring the learners’ progress in the form of checking, evaluating and feedbacking.

It may sound difficult but, being a teacher by profession and vocation, a teacher is a teacher. Education must continue through the teacher. It must not stop. And teacher’s
flexibility comes in. Positivity is one important characteristic a teacher in the new normal should possess because positivity comes success. Openness to innovations and professional development leads to a well-equipped and skilled facilitator for learning. And the most important is to have a big heart which the caterer of education should have because education is measured not by grades but the quality of teaching delivered to clients.

References:

https://sharemylesson.com/blog/new-normal-pandemic