TEACHING IN THE WEB ERA

by:
Ma. Bernadette E. Mendiola, Ed.D
School Principal II, St. Francis Elementary School

Education is a life-long process, and it has been part of human existence and development in all aspects of life. Teaching can transform a good man to a better person and all the desirable characteristics may bring someone to the ladder of success.

Traditionally, the teacher is a guru and a guide, controlling the entire process of teaching and learning. The pupils invariably passive recipients of information provided by the teacher who also determined the pace and direction of learning. The students would ask questions and seek clarifications but seldom challenged his authority or leadership.

Nowadays, education is no longer restricted in passing on information or knowledge rather it is an understanding of principles and application of knowledge. In the electronic generation the guided discovery and inquiry approach lead the learning process more understandable and interesting to the modern students. Pupils are guided to excellence through electronic way on educating them and creating opportunities on varied lesson.

However, there has been a paradigm shift in the process for teaching and learning with the introduction of applied disciplines, and more so with the advent of technology, allowing greater access to information and sources of knowledge. The teacher is no longer the king of the classroom but rather a middleman between information and student. On the other hand, “the student has now become an active informational architect, procuring, rearranging and displaying information, instead of a passive sponge soaking up knowledge.” (loraevanousk, 2011)
Meanwhile, technology has travelled a long distance and opened new avenues of learning. From Computer Based Teaching (CBT) and Computer-Aided Communication (CMC) to E-learning and Web-Based Training (WBT), education technology has helped create innovating learning environment. Its singular achievement has been in the field of distance learning in which several people can learn simultaneously from different locations. However, its success largely depends on good student-teacher interaction, proper use of technology, meticulous planning and effective management. Thus, technology may work wonders but may not be able to substitute the teacher and his ability to guide the students and equip them with knowledge, skills and values to face the challenges of the real world. With ever-increasing role of technology, teacher training is getting more and more complex and challenging. Nowadays, the foundation and philosophy of education must innovate teaching process through the use high end technology and the teacher has to learn the use of this technology in teaching strategies and techniques. Hence, technology-related training is a must for new generations of teachers so that education can go along with the fast changing society of young people.

References: