VALUE OF ICT IN TODAY’S NEW NORM IN EDUCATION

by:
Lorenzo P. Manalang  III
Teacher II, Hermosa National High School

This is the second year that the new normal in education is being implemented in schools. It was a year of huge challenges and struggles having to cope up with teaching and learning. The struggle was real not only for students and their families but to the entire teaching force and school administration as well.

It is during these times that the importance and value of ICT found its way to a more practical acceptance and utilization among the entire education community. Thus, the dilemma received in integrating ICT into lesson plans have greatly reduced if not totally eradicated. Before, you have to convince colleagues to utilize educational technology in their lessons or to incorporate it to their scheme of work but there was resistance in some and mostly the reason is that they are not “techie” enough. Not anymore today.

Some of the identified values of using ICT now in teaching includes:

1. ICT enhances students’ engagement in lessons. It helps trigger imagination, creativity, enthusiasm, and interest among learners across ages and levels.
2. ICT provides educational framework that helps students develop their independent learning skills as well as their understanding and accomplishment of learning in various subject areas.
3. ICT allows broad collaboration in learning among learners despite distance.
4. ICT gives sustainable motivation among learners even though they are not physically present in the school. This helps teachers keep their students’ attention to what is being taught.
5. ICT provides large room for storing data, improving and keeping it, and restoring it for future use.

6. ICT helps access important and appropriate information useful in teaching and learning. Access to a wide array of information provided by the web enables teachers and students explore on many possible relevant knowledges useful in learning.

7. ICT provides broad opportunities for personalized learning. Students become more aware of their own learning techniques and develop their ability to hone these learning skills.

Now, the need for ICT is being more understood and appreciated. To continue learning, developing, and improving understanding and using it can greatly contribute to achieving academic and learning goals in spite of the current crisis today that affects the education sector. As ICT teachers, this need is in our hands. Let us keep on imparting the knowledge on ICT use to our students and colleagues and find more meaningful ways to utilize it at its best.

References
