WAYS TO KEEP STUDENTS ON TRACK AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC

by:
Emily V. Bautista
Teacher III, Luakan National High School

The current world health pandemic has caused ceaseless problems not only in industry but also in the sector of education. The COVID-19 virus forced the school to stop operating and made every family stay at home to prevent them from getting the disease. This is the reason why the Department of Education adopted another way to deliver learning. Educators came up with Online or Distance learning as an alternate learning modality to sustain the education of the students while in lockdown. Teachers are also encouraged to embrace teaching practices that are suited to the new mode of learning. Webinars are made available to equip the teachers while working at home.

In addition to that, the UNICEF's Global Chief of Education, Robert Jetskins (2020) suggests some tips to keep the students still on track amidst lockdown. These tips are deemed very helpful to both teachers and parents. Parents have direct contact with their children while homeschooling, therefore these tips will make their learning sessions easier with the supervision of the teacher.

1. Create a routine with your child

Parent and child may create a routine together to prevent the student from boredom. They may follow an education program on television or online. They may also include educational play in their routine. Doing household chores may also be included to promote the development of fine and gross motor functions among children.

2. Communicate with your children openly
Let your children inquire and express their feelings. Hear what they feel and be patient in dealing with them because these children have a different way of coping with stress. Use this opportunity to discuss the proper hygiene practices, the importance of handwashing to prevent them from acquiring diseases.

3. Maximize the time for learning

Learning sessions should be one from shorter to longer lessons to avoid boredom among students. If every session consumes 30-45 minutes, the parent may start from 10 minutes then progressively longer until the student is fully adapted to the new mode of learning.

4. Supervise children while surfing the Internet

Establish rules with your children surfing the internet. Parents may let the students talk with their friends online but refrain them from sending pictures or other personal details to anyone. Educate them about the safe applications online that they may use.

5. Communicate with school and teachers

Parents must have open communication with the teachers of their children because they know what to do, ask for guidance, and stay informed. They can also join the group of parents to support each other with the homeschooling of their children.

References: