WHY CURRENT EVENTS AND SOCIA LLY-ORIENTED ISSUES NEED TO BE INTEGRATED IN INSTRUCTION

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Education not only envisions fostering the academic development and literacy skills of learners. It also aims to promote learners’ affective domains including social competencies and skills. One way of keeping up with this noble objective is to integrate and relate current events and socially-oriented issues in instruction or the teaching-learning process. Current events and social concerns and issues may not be integrated only on subjects dealing with sociological concepts but in any other cores areas of learning that could be used as avenues for values-integration and orientation.

There are various good reasons on why learners need to be aware, cognizant and acquainted with different current events on-going in the society and why they need to be exposed to socially-oriented instruction. One reason is that knowledge of current events makes learners become informed citizens and socially-concerned individuals. It makes them cognizant about the things, events and social phenomena transpiring in the society and even in the entire globe. Thus, with this awareness, they could think of valuable ways to contribute towards addressing social issues and problems. Awareness of current social issues and challenges therefore makes students honed as good problem-solvers and social contributors.

Most of all, current events and social issues are incorporated in instruction, most of the time to serve as avenues to promote and nurture social values and virtues among learners. These social values include social involvement, social concern, empathy, nationalism, patriotism, environmental concern, love for fellows, respects towards others’ cultural heritage and identities and love and allegiance towards the country. For instance, news involving good deeds and acts of modern day heroes like overseas
Filipino workers are exemplary for the learners. They can find new role models and exemplars from different socially-oriented news especially those portraying virtues and actions of nobility of others. Knowledge and awareness of these socially-oriented issues connect learners to the society, locality, community, environment and the rest of the world and cultivate among them profound values that make them informed citizens and well-rounded individuals, fellows and nation-builders.

References:

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