

EDUCATION IN THE NEW NORMAL

by:
Jessa Mae H. Serrano
Applicant

In response to Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), the Philippines have the longest lockdowns in the world. One of the most being affected by it is the education system. “It has caused a huge challenge in the delivery of education that opened different alternatives, and different learning modalities”, states Cho, Yoonyoung (2021). Though teachers were not prepared for these drastic changes, this serves as a great opportunity of being flexible and strategic.

According to the director of the department’s planning services, Roger B. Masapol, they have reduced the competencies to almost 50% to adjust to the new normal, and have adopted different learning modalities based on the choices of the parents and students. These include online learning, modular (printed or digitized), television-based instruction, radio, or a combination of these (blended learning), states DepEd UNICEF (2021).

Upon the lifting of lockdowns in certain provinces of the country, the President approves the recommendation for the progressive expansion of face-to-face classes. For both public and private schools, Secretary Briones has authorized all regional directors to apply the progressive expansion of face-to-face classes, through DepEd Order No. 017, s. 2022. The transition from modular modality to face-to-face classes will be a big challenge for both students and teachers. Students must have written consent from their parents, and teachers must be fully vaccinated.

Teachers will prepare the classroom setup and are focusing on the competencies in the MELC that are hard to understand. The number of hours per day that the students

will render, and the number of students per classroom will lessen compared to the old way of face-to-face classes.

We are getting back on track from what we have left two years ago. Based on these experiences, we have witnessed how flexible and how adaptive our education system is.

References:

DepEd order no. 017, s. 2022

https://www.deped.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/DO_s2022_017.pdf

DepEd -UNICEF (2021)

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