

LEARNING AND RE-LEARNING: COPING UP WITH TECHNOLOGICAL TRENDS IN TEACHING IN TIMES OF PANDEMIC

by:

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Covid-19 pandemic has brought many unprecedented adversities economically, socially, and politically across the country and the globe. One of the affected sectors is education system in the country. In the last two years, the Philippines closed its school to learners and many educational institutions transitioned to online teaching and learning. In this manner, digital platforms were introduced in the educative process. Online learning has taken over the face-to-face classroom instruction, wherein the teacher and students working on their tasks digitally, and this process is being carried out using various communication tools.

However, this abrupt and unexpected shift to teaching environment brought teachers difficulties and struggles. The disruption of COVID-19 in the educational system is of great magnitude that other teachers were unprepared for this crisis, not having enough knowledge and adequate skills to this new trend in teaching. As a result, the teaching and learning process sometimes does not become effective and teachers were not able to carry out their duties to their students resulting to learning losses.

Nowadays, teaching and learning process assumes a different shape. Technology is gradually revolutionizing field of education and as the frontliners of the educative process, teachers must cope up to this new development in teaching and start to realize the potential of technology integration as part of the instruction. With this, the Department of Education (DepEd) as part of the policymakers in the field unceasingly cultivating the digital skills needed by educators to effectively utilize the technology to

enhance the role of teachers to use of these platforms as part of their practice. For this reason, as educator we must learn and relearn new and innovative teaching methods for effective learning to happen.

In relation to this, Mark and Semaan (2008) stated that technology is an avenue that could provide innovative and resilient solution in times of crisis to combat several disruptions and help people communicate and work virtually without the need for face-to-face interaction. This leads to many changes in the system of the organizations as they adapt new technology for work and interaction. With this, we must continue to make ourselves better, as teachers we must be a step higher to our students or at least keep at par to the skills and abilities of our learners in terms of such technological development.

In line to this, the capacitation being conducted by our school administrators on reskilling and configuring, upskilling, and rewiring our knowledge and skills through series of online trainings and webinars are pivotal for us to be ready and be fully equipped with the technological innovations in teaching to be better at computer system navigation, using online platforms and tools that could be employed in the teaching and learning process.

Most importantly, Anna Hurajova et.al. (2022) pointed out that it is not enough that teachers have the mastery of the computer tools and systems but the key element for the effective learning and sustainability depends on the appropriate use of modern technology, communication strategy and teaching innovations for educational purposes and carrying out fundamental academic tasks. With all these, let us remember that technology is simply just a tool, without appropriate integration and utilization, it will not result in effective leaning.

Consequently, with the use of these learning opportunity provided to us not only we get better as educators, but we become better version of ourselves as learned individuals who unceasing try and learn something new for the betterment of the future.

Learning and relearning is an integral part on the lives of teachers so, we must not get tired of learning.

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