

RECOVERY ON EDUCATION: “NEW NORMAL” AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC

by:

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As the Covid-19 Pandemic arose, the implementation of the “New Normal” also began. All the industries, establishments, factories and different offices and agencies need to follow this new normal. Of course, the department of education is also affected. The Department of Education needs to adjust the challenges faces of the K-12 and to become competitive as COVID-19 came so suddenly, thus, adding an even more formidable challenge.

One of the solutions made by the DepEd to support this issue is the use of radio and TV and printed and audio-visuals, online, with the “blended” mode or use of video and print modules. The challenge and opportunity of this new normal provides different goals for both the teachers, students, as well as the parents. To succeed in this pandemic, it will require the cooperative support of everyone and the department. The flexibility of everyone, willingness to take on new responsibilities and to work heartedly in a crisis and tough environment, together with the top officials of education, and passion of teachers as they are prepared throughout the school year with the establishment of leadership and utilization of technology could make a difference.

The Philippines was one of the latest countries to resume face-to-face schooling, 21 months after the government declared a national health emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. The Department of Education stated that they are pleased to see that our students are inside our classrooms because we all know the importance of face-to-face learning in their social development.

Educators have also highlighted the importance of improving learner competencies in reading, math, and science, where Filipino pupils are falling behind their ASEAN peers.

The DepEd's safety assessment is reflected in a comprehensive memorandum circular that covers the following aspects of managing school operations: shared responsibility with local government units (LGUs), parents, and the community; alternative work arrangements, including availability, transportation, and teacher health; classroom layout and structure, with an emphasis on physical distancing and adequate ventilation (including the use of high-eff materials); and classroom layout and structure, with an emphasis on physical distancing and adequate ventilation. This is such a good start to striking back to traditional face-to-face classes where most of the learning experiences happen.

References:

Distance education in these pandemic times – Manila Bulletin (mb.com.ph)

Expanding face-to-face classes Crucial in averting a learning crisis – Manila Bulletin (mb.com.ph)