

STRENGTHENING KNOWLEDGE THROUGH GRADUATE STUDIES

by:

Ma. Angelica S. Cruz

Teacher II, Orani National High School, Parang-Parang

Making a difference is the genuine advantage of teaching for many teachers – the feeling of self-satisfaction that comes from seeing your students grow and achieve as a result of your hard work and dedication in the classroom.

Researchers are continually discovering new ways to integrate academic theory and instruction, which means teachers must constantly learn new abilities in order to have the most influence on their students. As a result, many teachers opt to return to school and earn master's degrees, allowing them to perfect their skills and become professional educators.

Advanced degree programs provide teachers with an understanding of the theoretical and practical backgrounds that drive their careers, as well as how education theory influences their teaching methods. Teachers gain the benefit from watching their students excel in the classroom when they apply theory to teaching approaches.

For example, philosopher Jean Piaget's educational theories emphasize the value of distinct, individual learning. Piaget recognized that six students would learn in six distinct ways if a teacher taught an English lesson to them. Teachers, according to Piaget, must evaluate their teaching techniques in order to find ways to improve student outcomes.

Many teachers struggle to change lesson plans based on a student's learning needs or do not consider making these adjustments because of lack of understanding on how to apply Piaget's theories to their classrooms. Individual learning and assessment are

emphasized in master's programs, helping teachers to become more flexible in their teaching approaches.

According to a study conducted by Michael Grether, students were more motivated to approach course material favorably when teachers employed personalized reading tactics. Teachers with master's degrees could individually classify and alter lesson plans for learners who have a history of reading and writing difficulties.

As schools realize the value of a master's degree for teachers, they reward those who earn advanced degrees with higher compensation and leadership chances. Teachers spend time and effort in graduate school, and school districts want them to stay in the district to assist steer the school's future growth. Master's degree holders provide the best opportunity for schools to make good curriculum modifications and improve student results.

Earning a Master's Degree also gives you a stronger voice in the national discourse about education. Teachers become more important members of the educational community as their knowledge of teaching approaches, classroom management practices, and professional resources grows.

Unfortunately, in today's educational and political climate, legislators, politicians, and other individuals with inadequate educational background want to make changes to schools that may be detrimental to a student's future. This should be very concerning to many teachers and school heads who entered the profession hoping to have an impact on their students' lives.

Schools are looking for master's degree holders to take on leadership roles in the educational community to assist defend research-based teaching methods. The greatest value of a master's degree for a dedicated teacher who enters the field to make an impact is spearheading school-wide change.

Administrators use their previous teaching experience, educational background, and master's program skills to help their schools make beneficial improvements. By adopting school-wide improvements, these respected individuals can truly understand how their master's program has impacted not only them, but thousands of learner's educational outcomes.

References:

Jean Piaget's Theory and Stages of Cognitive Development | Simply Psychology

Michael Grether | Masters in Education | Advancing the skills of educators (masters-education.com)