

EDUCATION AND THE BATTLE AGAINST PANDEMIC

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Students, educators, and administrators have been going through challenges and changes this year. New implementations of protocols, learning systems, schedules, workplace changing to work from home are a few of the changes that happened with regards to the pandemic. This situation makes every citizen of the country adapt, cope, and survive the new normal. The education system has been amended into a distance learning approach where online, modular and blended learning are integrated to pursue the academic year. A battle against the pandemic is one of the most significant challenges. And the Philippines is one of them trying to cope with it.

The sector of education has an intense battle in dealing with the pandemic. A succession of changes in the academic calendar has been imposed. The local government has helped the Department of Education continue the academic year by giving free gadgets, load, Wi-Fi connections, and some educational aid for students who can't afford to cope with the new changes due to the pandemic. Indeed, the emergence of the global pandemic has created a vast disruptive effect on everyday life and education, complex as it already was in many locality and areas in the country. For schools, students, and parents, the impression of closed schools and children held at home with little or no contact to learning the effect has been disturbing. To experience a lack of access and availability of resources to acquire education during the pandemic is a big issue today. Regarding the problems the education sector has faced due to the pandemic, researchers say that this phenomenon, the crisis, and the response to the pandemic have exposed weaknesses in educational systems such as lack of budget, fast implementation of the new design, and regulations. Still, on the other hand, while battling against the pandemic, this

leads to creating chances to reshape school education to a new standard that is more resilient and robust.

Overall, the education sector is battling a pandemic. Even though the academic year is ongoing and students and educators continue to provide high-quality education, the issues and problems related to the emergence of the pandemic will always hinder achieving a better education for everyone.

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