

## WORLD TEACHERS' DAY- PLACING TEACHERS IN THE CENTER OF THE EDUCATION RECOVERY

*by:*

**Geraldine C. Flores, EdD**

*School Principal I, Palili Integrated School*

Every year, World Teachers' Day gives us a chance to honor and celebrate the 71 million teachers, who make up the world's educational system, highlighting their contributions and the enormous responsibility they bear in ensuring that every child and young person has the opportunity to pursue their educational rights.

The celebration this year will center on the change in education that starts with teachers as we are now into the third year marked by the COVID-19 pandemic. To highlight the value of the work of teachers, let us continually support teachers, involve teachers, trust and respect teachers to recognize their contributions to society.

Teachers have never been more in demand or required than they are now. The COVID-19 pandemic's effects on education have proven the importance of teachers in preserving the continuity of learning and in preserving the very dynamics of homes, families, and communities.

We have seen how teachers have been at the center of educational responses, ensuring that learning can continue despite school closures as well as promoting the socio-emotional health of their children.

As a result, parents, communities, and educational systems have a revitalized appreciation for teachers and their crucial contribution to the social, economic, and cultural life of countries as well as to the recovery of education.

However, the COVID-19 crisis has brought to light significant issues for the teaching profession, such as a lack of opportunities for professional development in online and distance learning, an increase in workloads, and instances of private school and community teachers going without pay for months or being fired.

It is important to involve teachers as major actors in creating more adaptive educational systems that are resistant to future shocks to support putting teachers at the center of education recovery. This is why the Global Education Meeting has prioritized supporting all educators as frontline workers, engaging their representative groups when making decisions, and ensuring their safety, well-being, and fair working conditions.

Regarding professional development, this entails encouraging teachers to enhance their techniques, having faith in the pedagogical expertise of qualified and experienced educators, and giving them the knowledge and abilities to use educational technologies to support learning and modify content and teaching methods to a variety of learners.

Assessing student learning at the classroom level and modifying the curriculum to better meet the needs of the students, calls for specialized pedagogical knowledge. These components must be integrated into teacher education to ensure that aspiring teachers are better equipped for upcoming crises.

Creating avenues for teachers and the organizations that represent them to participate in decision-making and sharing the decision-making process are two of the largest issues facing educational institutions today.

Teachers must have access to safety precautions, reasonable working hours, fair compensation, and professional development opportunities to have healthy, safe, and enabling working conditions that are free from prejudice and discrimination. This will enhance recruitment, retention, motivation, and, ultimately, student learning and well-being while also enhancing the stature of the profession.

Last but not least, these policy areas must assist all teachers from a lifelong perspective, including new and seasoned educators, early childhood educators, higher education teachers, TVET, adult education, and literacy practitioners.

This strategy can ensure that teachers stay at the center of education and that the SDG 4 aim of boosting the supply of qualified teachers remains a compass for policy action and international cooperation.

*References:*

<https://www.globalpartnership.org/blog/world-teachers-day-placing-teachers-heart-education-recovery>

<https://www.ei-ie.org/en/item/26900:world-teachers-day-2022-we-transform-education#:~:text=The%20leadership%20of%20teachers%20in,of%20Education%20Begins%20with%20Teachers.>