

THE CHALLENGES OF TEACHERS ON ICT INTEGRATION

by:

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As we enter 21st century, the fast emergence of technology changes our lives. Due to this, the department decided to integrate Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into education. With this action, teachers are going to be given a broader opportunity to grow and develop professionally and skillfully. It will also serve as aid for easier and better understanding of our learners. According to Molly, ICT empowers students to activate within the learning process and give them a pastime in their personal education. By integrating ICT into the classroom, students can learn more effectively, collaborate with one another, and explore the world around them. It also helps learners to effectively learn more and find related knowledge and information for learning.

Beautiful it may seem, but still challenges and problems occur as the implementation goes by. Along with the positive effects of ICT integration to education comes the struggle in using and manipulating it especially on those traditional teachers who does not have the enough skills on the technical aspects. Technical difficulties become a main problem and source of frustration for learners and teachers that cause interruptions in the process of teaching and learning. Schools also encounter difficulties in their implementation because of some valid reasons like facilities and location. Here are the other disadvantages that teachers and schools encounter as we indulge in the use of ICT.

Not all schools are of reach of internet connectivity. Access to ICT in some schools are restricted especially on upland areas due to infrastructure limitation and a lack of

capacity of teachers and to use ICT and technology to intensify the quality of their teaching.

Sometimes the use of technology is unhealthy and hinders people from learning especially when used improperly. It is also addictive to the point where many people spent their time on it and forgot to do more important things in life.

Elementary teacher had attended a lot of ICT trainings, but the effect of the it was unsatisfied, and knowledge learned there was not retained. One of the reasons for this was some of the trainees lost their interest and enthusiasm, which lead to their low engagement in the training.

But despite these challenges, the teachers should be the main motivator and initiator of the ICT implementation at schools. The teachers should be aware of the changes in their teaching activities especially on social aspect. They should be the agent of change from the traditional method of teaching into the modern one. They must also be the part of the change in learning and teaching of the department. There is still considerable hope that is technology is used and integrated properly, it might improve and expand the level of education that we are giving our learners.

Though reluctant to this integration by now, teachers are so flexible and innovative. If given motivation and proper explanation of how these things will help them lessen the burden of their teaching, teachers will enjoy the fun, excitement, and relief of integrating ICT in education. And with the passion and eagerness they have for their learners, it is sure that they will always be open to these changes that will make their teaching experience a more collaborative and worthy one.

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