

TEACHING IN THE POST-PANDEMIC ERA

by:

Mark P. Manimbo

Master Teacher I, Mariveles National High School-Poblacion

Teaching is probably one of the most demanding vocations in the world. It requires teachers who can dedicate their time and effort to deliver quality instruction. It entails a lot of patience and understanding. Kaieteur News through Professor Samad (2011) highlighted that teaching is the most challenging profession because teachers never stop teaching. Then suddenly COVID-19 shocked the whole world that led to the closure of schools for at least two years.

Now, that in-person classes are applied and students are back in the school, teachers are experiencing different problems when it comes to the delivery of the lessons. One glaring problem, even among junior high school students, is that some have difficulty in reading texts. Some students are hard to read sentence and phrases, and even a simple word. This situation adds to the concern of the teachers, because they are worried if the students really understood the lesson.

Another evident problem is on how to execute a simple instruction. During activity, some students do not know what to do even if you explained what they need to do. Teachers have to repeat the instruction and need to further elaborate the task.

In addition, teachers also encounter problems in basic mathematics. There are students who showed that they didn't master how to add and subtract numbers, more so when adding and subtracting numbers with decimal point and fractions. Similarly, some students have a hard time converting percentage into a fraction. These situations in mathematics can definitely affect students' performance in subjects or competencies where they have to perform mathematical operations.

Teachers may be dealing with repeated problems which were clear when there was no pandemic, and now they are doubling their efforts to help learners cope with the lessons. But the concern of most teachers is focused on the behavior of the learners. Orientation was held to discuss what students have to do and not to do while in the school premise. However, as in-person classes continue, teachers witnessed how learners are shouting and making noise in the corridor while there were on-going classes, as if they do not know that there are classes. Teachers have to call the attention of these students because they were disturbing the former's class. Also, some teachers have noticed that a few students do not know how to ask permission to allow their friend to go outside the classroom and talk to them. These behaviors are unbecoming, causing disturbance to the teachers' discussion, and should not be tolerated.

Teaching in the post-pandemic period is very challenging and sometimes frustrating as more problems arise due to the long hiatus of in-person activities. On the report of World Bank in 2021, teachers are in an unprecedented situation in which they must make up for substantial loss of instructional time from the previous school year and teach the current year's curriculum. Students are also experiencing learning loss due to school closure. That is why teachers are looking for new materials and strategies to catch the attention of the learners and get them back into the track of learning.

References:

Kaieteur News (2011). Teaching is one of the most demanding profession. <https://www.kaieteurnewsonline.com/2011/07/17/teaching-is-one-of-the-most-demanding-professions/>

World Bank (2021). Mission: Recovering Education in 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/education/brief/mission-recovering-education-in-2021>

depedbataan.com
The Official Website of DepED Division of Bataan