WHY CLASSROOMS SHOULD ADAPT A STUDENT-CENTERED APPROACH

by:
SHYAM N. ORIBELLO
Teacher III, Hermosa National High School

A student-centered classroom is one in which the focus is on the needs, interests, and abilities of the students. In such a classroom, the teacher serves as a facilitator, providing support and guidance as students take an active role in their own learning. From the definition given, one could already infer that there are several reasons why a student-centered approach to education is beneficial for learning.

The first reason is that a student-centered classroom can increase student engagement and motivation. When students are actively involved in their own learning and have some control over the direction of their studies, they are more likely to be engaged and motivated to learn. This can lead to an increase in overall academic achievement.

Second, a student-centered approach can better accommodate the diverse learning needs and styles of students. In a traditional classroom, the teacher is often the sole source of information, and the pace of instruction is dictated by the teacher. This can be challenging for students who learn at a different pace or in a different way. A student-centered classroom allows for more flexibility and can better meet the needs of individual students.

Third, a student-centered approach can foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills. When students are given the opportunity to explore and investigate topics that are of interest to them, they are more likely to engage in higher-level thinking and

problem-solving. This is an important skill that will serve them well in their future studies and careers.

Fourth, a student-centered approach can promote a sense of ownership and responsibility in students. When students are given the chance to take an active role in their own learning, they are more likely to feel invested in their studies and to take ownership of their learning. This can lead to a stronger sense of personal responsibility and self-motivation.

Finally, a student-centered approach can help to create a more positive and inclusive learning environment. When students are given the opportunity to participate and contribute to their own learning, they are more likely to feel valued and included in the classroom community. This can lead to a more positive and supportive learning environment for all students.

In conclusion, a student-centered approach to education is important in the Philippine education system because it can increase student engagement and motivation, accommodate diverse learning needs and styles, foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills, promote a sense of ownership and responsibility, and create a more positive and inclusive learning environment. By focusing on the needs, interests, and abilities of students, teachers can create a classroom that is conducive to deep and meaningful learning.

References:

Green, C., & Harrington, C. (2020). Student-Centered Learning: In Principle and in Practice | Michigan Virtual.Michiganvirtual.org. https://michiganvirtual.org/research/publications /student-centered -learning-in-principle-and-in-practice/

Homeschool Hideout. (2021). 5 Advantages of Student-Centered Learning. Homeschool Hideout. https://homeschoolhideout.com/5-advantages-of-student-centered-learning/

Sudderth, A. (2020). What is Student-Centered Learning and Why is it Important? Rethink Together. https://xqsuperschool.org/rethinktogether/what-is-student-centered-learning/