

## OVERCOMING CHALLENGES IN LNHS SPECIAL PROGRAM IN JOURNALISM OVER THE YEARS

*by:*

**Aymie Faye G. Jaring**

*Teacher I, Luakan National High School*

Luakan National High School has started its Special Program in Journalism in the school year 2019-2020. During the first year of its implementation, the first challenge is the limited learning materials for teachers and students. As a solution, the SPJ teachers crafted journalism modules aligned with the curriculum guide of SPJ. They produced additional materials, such as PowerPoint presentations and sample newspapers, to enrich the students' learning amid the pandemic. The English department did not allow the hampering of learning during the pandemic because the teachers provided webinars and online training for the SPJ students.

Moreover, as we want back to the implementation of full face-to-face classes, the department intensified its efforts to enhance the journalistic skills of SPJ students in terms of writing, broadcasting, video editing, and creating graphic arts. Aiming to provide further insights for students aside from the ones coming from the teachers, LNHS is inviting resource speakers outside the school, such as teachers with expertise in Journalism and even media practitioners.

According to Avelino (2022), campus journalism in the Philippines is undergoing significant development, transforming from a mere annual writing or broadcasting competition into a practical simulation of journalism operations. Academic authorities must endorse establishing a sustainable journalism program to foster student motivation toward public service,

Regarding Avelino's statement (2022), LNHS is committed to providing students with an array of opportunities that will enrich their learning experience as SPJ students. The school provided an SPJ laboratory where the student journalists may hold their press work and other school-related activities required in their classes. The venue is a place to work productively and produce more outputs in campus journalism.

Furthermore, Wao, Romano, and Hardin (2020) stated that journalism programs encounter numerous obstacles in their endeavor to equip students with the requisite information and competencies to navigate the dynamic landscape of journalism. Programs must assess whether students acquire the competencies their program designers have deemed crucial for the respective area. Conversely, students must exhibit proficiency in specific places before their graduation.

Committed to nurturing SPJ students to become proficient in different journalistic skills, LNHS assures that they provide the necessary training, workshops, and equipment. Currently, the efforts of the school, English department, and SPJ teachers are notable through various outputs that SPJ students are producing until this current school year, such as regular posting of articles on our Facebook page, newscasting both radio and television, as well as coverages in various school activities and timely production of quality outputs.

### *References:*

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