

ROOTING THE CATCH- UP FRIDAYS

by:

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Stressing that intervention programs should be "tailored" to individual learners' needs: "Catch-Up Fridays should be halted, and consultations should precede any further action." The Department of Education has released the guidelines for implementing its "Catch Up Fridays" learning intervention program, which will be officially rolled out in public schools nationwide starting January 12 as stipulated in DepEd Memorandum 001 s. 2024, The Implementation of Catch-Up Friday. The program will allow half of every Friday to reading and the other half to values, peace, and health education. DepEd remarked that its reading program will give learners chances for reading intervention and enhancement through exploratorily suitable reading materials.

The government recognized concerns regarding implementing the DepEd program and learning poverty. The latest Programme for International Student Assessment (Pisa) reflects the data. Thus, 15-year-old students from the Philippines scored one of the lowest among 81 countries. Their average reading score was 347 points, remarkably lower than the global average of 476. Average 2022 results were notably steady as in 2018 in mathematics, reading, and science. Over the latest period (2018 to 2022), the gap between the highest-scoring students (10% with the highest scores) and the lowest performing students (10% with the lowest scores) decreased in mathematics, while it unvarying significantly in science and reading. Whereas in mathematics, low-achievers became more perceptible, while performance did not change substantially amongst high-achievers (OECD, 2023).

The most appropriate way to limit the indemnity of the pandemic would be to help children catch up rather than granting them to recommence without mastering the necessary skills. Noted in a study that, as is being done in some countries, planned remedial courses (for example, summer learning programs) should be systematic and financially supported following periods of school closure, with precedence given to learners from working-class families (Goudeau, Sébastien, et al., 2021) to help learners develop the habit of reading and address learning gaps among learners. There is a need to motivate educational leaders "to move beyond the emergency acquisition of online learning towards comprehensive, long-term visions for digital education, emphasizing collaboration over individual gain. Education." is facing alternatives to recommence after the pandemic. One point of view relies on the scheme of a rollback and implies the return to established programs of teaching and learning before the pandemic (Kerres & Buchner, 2022).

"Education leaders, she said, have a huge responsibility to ensure that children do not miss out on the benefits of learning. In all the challenges, one thing is clear: We must act now. We cannot afford to waste more time", Secretary Sara Duterte urged.

In general, one of the best ways to address the learning gaps at Luz Elementary School is to enable learners to practice further and apply previously taught competencies during the National Learning Camp, developing strategic instructional materials and other learning interventions assisted through technical assistance from the school head of our school, Dr. Rowena M. Lisud, those will support learners in understanding Fundamental Mathematics or Foundational English skills. Go back and reconceptualize the domain that needs extra work. Although this appears like an evident answer, remember that learning gaps form because learners are often forced to advance at their class's pace, regardless of whether they have fully comprehended the concept being taught. Luzian teachers have the distinctive ability to go back and revisit preceding topics and subjects that need to be clarified, working one-on-one at the learners' pace. Once

learning gaps begin to direct, learners often see considerable improvements in their grades and overall attitude toward academics. Learning is constantly about moving ahead and building upon prior knowledge, so learners must have a firm academic foundation in all subjects.

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