

EMBRACING CHANGE: THE EVOLVING ROLE OF EDUCATORS IN THE NEW NORMAL

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The global pandemic has triggered a seismic shift in the field of education, prompting educators to adapt, innovate, and redefine their roles in the face of unprecedented challenges. As schools transition to remote, hybrid, or blended learning models, the role of educators has evolved significantly, requiring them to embrace change, leverage technology, and prioritize student well-being in the new normal.

One of the most notable changes in the educator's role is the integration of technology into teaching and learning. Educators have become adept at utilizing digital tools, online platforms, and virtual resources to deliver engaging and interactive lessons. They are no longer confined to traditional classroom settings but are now proficient in facilitating digital instruction, creating multimedia content, and using collaborative tools to foster active learning and student engagement.

In the new normal, educators have shifted towards personalized and flexible learning approaches to accommodate diverse student needs and preferences. They design adaptable curricula, provide differentiated instruction, and offer individualized support to ensure that each student can learn at their own pace, style, and level of readiness. This personalized approach enhances student motivation, autonomy, and academic success in a dynamic learning environment.

Amidst the challenges of the new normal, educators play a crucial role in promoting social-emotional learning (SEL) and supporting student well-being. They prioritize mental health, emotional resilience, and positive relationships by creating safe,

inclusive, and supportive learning environments. Educators provide social-emotional support, foster empathy, and empower students with coping strategies, self-regulation skills, and mindfulness practices to navigate uncertainties and build resilience.

Educators in the new normal embrace collaboration, networking, and professional development opportunities to enhance their skills, share best practices, and stay updated with educational trends and technologies. They collaborate with colleagues, attend virtual conferences, engage in online communities, and participate in continuous learning experiences to expand their knowledge, improve their teaching practices, and address emerging challenges effectively.

In the new normal, educators are advocates for equity, diversity, and inclusion in education. They address digital inequities, advocate for accessible and inclusive learning environments, and promote cultural responsiveness and social justice. Educators strive to create equitable opportunities for all students, celebrate diversity, and empower learners from diverse backgrounds to succeed academically and socially.

The changing role of educators in the new normal reflects their resilience, adaptability, and commitment to student-centered education. By embracing technology, personalized learning, social-emotional support, collaboration, and advocacy for equity and inclusion, educators are shaping the future of education and preparing students to thrive in a rapidly evolving world. As they navigate uncertainties and embrace opportunities, educators continue to inspire, empower, and lead the way towards transformative educational experiences in the new normal.

References:

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