

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE: TEACHERS DRIVING INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION

*by:*

**Merry Grace C. Cabrera**

*Teacher I, Bamban Elementary School*

The term innovation was initially introduced in the 19th century and continues to be applied across various societal domains, including education. This includes improvement to techniques, engagement, outcomes and adaptability to the evolving educational needs of our learners. One of the major innovations that is greatly accepted by learners is application of technology.

People observed innovation in the 21st century through simple adjustments such as putting the technology in the middle of the learning process. Fernández-Gutiérrez et al., 2020 discussed that educational system worldwide has increased their investment in the integration of information and communication technology (ICT) because of the observable improvement in the teacher and student engagement of the learners as well as the improvement of the quality of education. Application of technologies greatly impacts the learners through their needs to understand a topic not only through concepts but as the learners being within the topic being discussed.

According to George Couros, technology will not replace great teachers but the technology in the hands of great teachers can be transformational". This implies that different innovations such as incorporating technologies would make a big difference to the teaching and learning process. This equips teachers and educational institutions to provide a suitable learning process that would let the student adapt to the changing society.

Innovation in society fuels the need to adapt to changes, especially in education, this makes us exist and be able to improve, this is observed through the aim of teachers to educate learners. This gives birth to adaptability and creativity, that let every individual not only our learners to look for solutions that open up new approaches on transferring knowledge through innovative teaching strategies. Another innovation that is widely adapted by learners are collaborative learning environment.

According to Johnson (2007), on his study 'State of Cooperativeness Learning' , he found out that students may learn a lot from working in groups, but the learning potential of collaboration is underused in practice. Nowadays, collaborative learning environments are used by innovative teachers to break down diversity and introduce cooperation.

Teachers adapt this adjustment to provide learners with the best learning environment to prepare learners for the dynamic future. Teachers are the implementing body that would foresee the steps that would need to be taken for improvement and adjustment. As we look for the future of education, it is needed to support all educational institutions to provide solutions and take necessary adjustments for education system to improve and achieve the goal of creating learners that have the values of resilience, creativity and innovative.

### *References:*

Fernandez- Gutierrez(2020) Is the use of ICT in education leading to higher student outcomes? Analysis from the Spanish Autonomous Communities

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compedu.2020.103969>

Courus, George (2015). The Innovator's Mindset: Empower Learning, Unleash Talent,

and Lead a Culture of Creativity, <http://dx.doi.org/10.18538/lthe.v15.n2.293>

Johnson DW, Johnson RT, Smith K(2007). The state of cooperative learning in

postsecondary and professional settings. *Educ Psychol Rev.* 2007;19:15–29.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10648-006-9038-8>