

### FROM CURIOSITY TO CREATION: HOW HIGH SCHOOL RESEARCH PROJECTS EMPOWER STUDENTS IN SHAPING THE FUTURE

by:

#### Rose Anne P. Pangilinan

Head Teacher III, Luakan National High School - Annex

Research skills are as basic as they are fundamental-in today's knowledge-based world, they equip students with the ability to critically examine information available, solve problems and ultimately make informed decisions. Requiring research as a topic is one of the most efficient ideas to develop these skills even while in senior high school that will prepare them to reach academic and professional future achievement. The subjects of research are supposed to encourage inquiry, critical thinking, and independence. These are qualities that are core to higher education and even life. Here, we explore how research as a subject benefits senior high school students and why it should be part of the curriculum.

The first benefit of teaching research in high school is the development of students' critical thinking and analytical skills. The process encourages the students to evaluate the sources, critically assess information reliability, and draw inferences based on evidence. In assignments and projects, they learn how to answer questions from more than one angle, distinguish between biased and unbiased sources, and think independently. This brings a greater understanding of diverse subjects and equips students to take on more complex problems they are likely to encounter in college or the workplace. In their increasing ability to think through information critically, they develop further into their ability to better understand and connect themselves with the world around them.

# depedbataan.comPublications The Official Website of DepED Division of Bataan

Students have to independently work on research projects involving managing time and doing a task that requires minimal supervision. Experiences help them develop self-confidence as they come to rely on their own judgment and ownership of the task at hand. By permitting students to study things in which they have particular interest, research projects keep learning interesting and heighten their curiosity. Particularly during this time as the student shifts from a highly programmed high school environment into more self-directed college program or professional field.

The effective research project represents more than just gathering of data; students must also clearly state and present that material rhetorically. Presenting research to the class and reporting on their findings helps students learn how to clearly communicate complex ideas to others. These activities help to improve their writing and speaking skills and equip them for the sharing of insights at university or in the workplace. As well, research projects prepare students to develop teamwork skills, an essential interpersonal skill for many professionals.

It teaches the student to tackle real-life problems as a subject called research. While researching issues in their communities or areas of interest, students learn how to propose solutions and give evidence-based recommendations. It's an approach that teaches them to be resilient, to go through challenges, revise their hypotheses, and refine their work. For students interested in subjects like science, technology, engineering, or even social sciences, research skills open up doors to innovative thinking and experimental learning, the value of which is exponentially increasing in today's job market. The Importance of Introducing Research in High School.

Introducing research as a subject in senior high school reflects the shift in educational priorities. Teachers today understand that learning is not just about memorization; it's about abilities to make pupils active learners as well as enlightened citizens. Besides the dawn of rapid advancements in technology and information, students should learn to differentiate credible from untrustworthy sources. The

# depedbataan.comPublications The Official Website of DepED Division of Bataan

introduction of research in the high school curriculum helps schools prepare their students with the skills to live in modern life while developing lifelong habits of learning. In summary, the study in school equips students with fundamental skills in academic and personal growth. Research helps students from the development of critical thinking up to the solving of problems, contributing to the development of well-rounded, capable, and confident students. Bringing research into the curriculum in school is a good thing; it's a necessity, therefore, in preparing the students for challenges and opportunities to come.

#### References:

De Guzman, M. L., & Santos, R. P. (2018). Integrating research in Philippine senior high school curriculum: A comprehensive guide for educators. University of the Philippines Press.

Garcia, J. P. (2021). The impact of research subjects on critical thinking skills among senior high school students in Metro Manila. Philippine Journal of Educational Research, 15(3), 45–67. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pjer.2021.03.004

