

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNERS: ADDRESSING COMMON CONCERNS IN OUR CLASSROOMS

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Education is a fundamental right of every child, and it is our shared responsibility as educators to ensure that each learner not only gains knowledge but also receives the care and support necessary to flourish. As members of the Department of Education, we witness daily the hopes and hardships our students face, which often influence their ability to learn and succeed. Recognizing these challenges is the first step toward creating a more inclusive and nurturing learning environment.

One of the most persistent issues in our schools is the lack of basic learning materials. Many students still come to school without sufficient notebooks, writing tools, or uniforms. In some classrooms, access to books and other up-to-date learning resources remains limited, which hampers effective instruction and independent study. Addressing this shortage is crucial to providing equitable learning opportunities for all students.

Despite the resumption of face-to-face classes, students continue to struggle with adapting to or catching up from previous modular and online learning modalities. Limited digital access in underserved communities makes online learning difficult, and low reading comprehension levels further hinder progress. These challenges highlight the need for tailored interventions that support learners as they transition back to traditional classroom settings.

Mental health and emotional well-being have become increasingly important concerns. Many students are exhibiting signs of stress, anxiety, and low motivation, often due to academic pressures, personal or family problems, and the ongoing adjustments

post-pandemic. Incorporating psychosocial support and mental wellness programs into our school activities is vital to help students cope and stay motivated to learn.

Hunger and poor nutrition continue to negatively impact student performance. Several schools report that many children arrive without breakfast or lunch, which affects their concentration, participation, and overall academic achievement. Additionally, transportation and safety issues pose significant barriers, especially in remote or disadvantaged areas, where students often walk long distances or rely on unsafe transportation to reach school. These obstacles can lead to irregular attendance and punctuality, further hindering learning.

Moving forward, strengthening support systems through collaboration is essential. Initiatives such as school-based feeding programs, community learning hubs, psychosocial activities, and resource mobilization can greatly improve learner outcomes. As we work towards providing a quality, inclusive, and relevant education, let us remember that every learner has a story—a story that offers an opportunity for compassion and positive change. Together, we can create safe, supportive, and student-centered schools where every child has the chance to succeed.

References:

<https://schoolizer.com/en/article/52/the-most-common-classroom-problems-and-solutions>