

DANCING WITH TECHNOLOGY

by:

Nora A. Eludo

Master Teacher I, Alauli Elementary School

In today's ever-changing digital world, education is constantly evolving. From how lessons are delivered to how records are maintained, modern technology has reshaped the daily routines of teachers. While younger educators often adapt naturally to new platforms and gadgets, it is the veteran teachers—those who began their careers using typewriters, chalk, and manila paper—who truly show what it means to adapt, evolve, and thrive. These seasoned professionals are not resisting change—they are gracefully dancing with it. They're learning to master digital tools while continuing to value and use the tried-and-tested methods that helped shape generations of learners.

In recent years, the rapid shift to digital teaching tools—especially during and after the COVID-19 pandemic—has become unavoidable. Platforms like Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, and Zoom are now part of the standard teaching toolkit. Administrative work, once handwritten or encoded on bulky desktop computers, is now completed through online forms, apps, and shared documents. For teachers who spent the early years of their profession without even a computer in the classroom, this change was certainly a challenge. But rather than shy away, many veteran educators have shown remarkable resilience.

Despite their new digital fluency, these experienced teachers haven't forgotten the value of traditional teaching materials. Visual aids—charts, real-life objects, flashcards, bulletin boards—remain an essential part of their classroom environment. They understand that while technology enhances instruction, visual tools help create strong, lasting connections in the learner's mind.

Rather than abandoning old methods, these teachers are enhancing them. Charts once drawn by hand are now crafted with design tools like Canva and printed in full color. Flashcards are available in both digital formats and in hard copies for reinforcement. Class displays are updated with both printed visuals and linking to online activities. This thoughtful balance between digital convenience and traditional engagement is a hallmark of their teaching approach.

What's more inspiring is how these teachers are not only keeping up—they are setting the pace. Many of them participate in webinars, take ICT training sessions, and even guide their peers in using devices and platforms. Their openness to growth proves that teaching is not limited by age—it is powered by mindset. These educators are showing that learning never stops, and neither does the will to evolve for the sake of students.

In the end, the story of older teachers embracing technology is not just about adaptation—it's about passion, commitment, and the deep desire to stay relevant for their learners. Their journey is a powerful reminder that while tools and trends may change, the heart of a teacher remains the same. As they continue to dance between innovation and tradition, they preserve what is timeless while embracing what is new. They are not just keeping up with the times—they are leading with wisdom, grace, and heart.

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