



USING FACEBOOK MESSENGER TO ENHANCE PUPILS ENGAGEMENT
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ABSTRACT

Learning was disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many schools had to close down all over the world to lower the risk of spreading the disease (Burgess & Sievertsen, 2020). To ensure the students' continual learning, the Department of Education directed school divisions to create their Learning Continuity Plan as following the DepEd memorandum no.018 s.2020. For the elementary level, printed or digital modules, online learning resources (such as DepEd commons), and television or radio-based instruction are offered as alternatives to physical classes (Bernardo, 2020). SDO Navotas adopted blended learning modalities. This modality is anchored on data gathered from the survey, *Teacher's Readiness to Distance Learning*. The results show that 69.8% of teachers have access to the internet and 79.7% are familiar with using online platforms.

Key Concepts: Student Engagement
 Use of Facebook Messenger

INTRODUCTION

Facebook Messenger is a popular digital media platform. Since many students are familiar with it, educators are considering using it as a learning environment. Teachers interviewed by Parrocha (2020) emphasized how FB Messenger is easy to navigate particularly to those who are not tech savvy. They also mentioned that major telecoms (like Smart & Globe) provide a free facebook feature to their subscribers. The study of Cunha, Kruistum, & Oers (2016) shows that there is a lack of studies that focus on the use of Facebook Messenger in the primary level. The present study aims to fill these gaps by assessing how using FB Messenger enhances student engagement.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of Facebook Messenger in enhancing the engagement in English class of Grade VI - Section Einstein from October 12, 2020 to January 9, 2021.

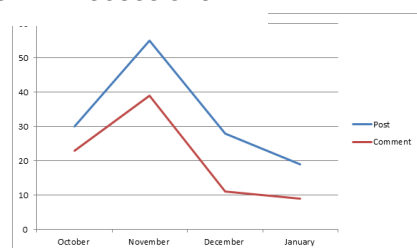
The following are the research questions:

1. How many are the teacher's posts and comments in Facebook Messenger?
2. How much did the students interact with the teacher's post and comments in Facebook Messenger?

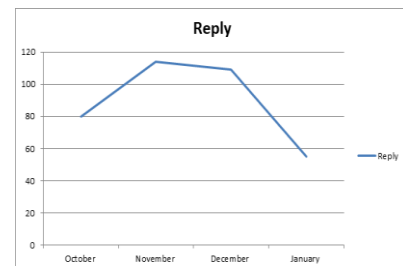
METHODOLOGY

Descriptive research design was utilized in this study. Mode & mean was used to compare the results. Thirty-two (32) students from Grade Six- Einstein were selected to participate. An additional survey was conducted. The results show that 46% of the sample have mobile devices with capability to download various applications like Google Meet and Google Classroom, 50% have mobile devices that are incompatible to the previously mentioned application, and 4% have no mobile device.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS



a. Number of Teachers Post and comments



b. Number of Pupils Response

In October, there were 30 posts and 23 comments. The following month (November), there were 55 posts and 39 comments. In December, there were 28 posts and 11 comments. For the last month there were 19 posts and 9 comments. The decline in posts and comments during December is likely due to the Christmas break.

CONCLUSION

The average reply is greater than the average posts and comments, therefore, it can be said that using Facebook Messenger enhances student engagement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Grade 6 English teachers are encouraged to adapt the use of messenger in their class.
- The school should provide training and seminar-workshop that would enhance teachers' capacity in using messenger platform for online classes as part of blended learning modality
- The local government unit should also provide if possible, free, accessible and stable internet connection to every school in the division so that teachers and students can use it whenever needed specially when conducting assessments and activities that require internet connection.

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