Online Learning Implementation During the COVID-19 Pandemic

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ABSTRACT

Learning is a process of interaction between teachers and students that is intense and directed in order to meet predetermined goals. Implementation of learning goes well, as can be seen from the effectiveness and success of the interaction process of the various components involved in it. The policy of implementing online learning is useful for limiting the transmission of the COVID-19 disease to students in all schools, causing various pros and cons. The purpose of this study is to find the advantages and disadvantages of online learning systems, and how existing problems solution. This research is a literature study with a qualitative approach. From the results of the study, it found that the implementation of online learning during the COID-19 pandemic had an unfavourable impact on improving student achievement so that a better strategy needed from school management.

Keywords: strategy, leadership, technology, communication.

1. INTRODUCTION

Learning is a process of interaction between teachers and students that is intense and directed in order to achieve the goals that have been prepared. So that the implementation of learning goes well, it can be seen from the effectiveness and success of the interaction process of the various components involved in learning. Interactions between learning components include interactions between teachers and students or students among students [1].

The benchmark for the success of learning depends on the achievement of students' learning competencies objectives which include; cognitive, affective, psychomotor competencies and the realization of the application of values both in thinking and acting [2]. Ensuring that all students have mastery of competence in a teaching material to then proceed to the next material is the purpose of mastery learning. Mastery learning refers to the competencies achieved and supported by indicators to measure the level of achievement [3]. All aspects of mastery learning can only be achieved with collaboration and cooperation between the two parties, namely teachers and students.

Precisely in November 2019 the world was disturbed by the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic caused by

the spread of the coronavirus. Furthermore, coronavirus pandemic in 2020 in addition to disrupting economic stability also affects the education system in every region in Indonesia. One of the policies in the field of education is temporarily replace learning activities in the classroom. This policy implemented in all schools and universities in Indonesia. By mid-April 2020, around 1.723 billion students have been affected by the closure of every school in an effort to contain the pandemic. According to UNESCO monitoring, 191 countries have implemented national lockdown and 5 other countries have implemented local closures, which affects around 98.4 percent of the world's student population [4].

School closure has an impact not only on students, teachers, and families, but on far-reaching economic stability and social consequences also [5]. In response to school closure caused by COVID-19, the government provides solutions so that teaching and learning activities continue as they should. An alternative step is to conduct a distance learning program using online learning media and applications that can be used by teachers and students. Such programs can help teachers reach students remotely and reduce barriers to education [6]. Lack of access to technology or fast and reliable internet access is felt by students in rural areas and from disadvantaged families.

Lacking of access to technology or good internet connectivity is an obstacle to continuing to learn, especially for students from underprivileged families. As a way to reduce the risk of spreading the COVID-19 Disease, hundreds of libraries have been temporarily closed. The implementation of distance learning programs for students who do not have internet access makes it difficult for them to participate in distance learning [7].

2. METHOD

This study uses a qualitative approach with research methods literature or literature study. Literature study is a collection of data based on the results of previous researchers' research and then re-observed to be research material [8].

Data collection techniques are carried out using documentation techniques, by analysing from various sources in which there are written sources related to the themes and topics to be discussed. After collecting data, the results of the data are then processed for later analysis using a descriptive method to describe how the discussion in this research is carried out. The data sources used are research articles, books and various journals that support this article

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1 *Student Learning Process and Outcomes*

Since the rampant pandemic caused by the Corona virus that has spread throughout the world and is now starting to enter Indonesia, the government has taken many ways as preventive measures in tackling its spread. The circular issued by the Ministry of Education and Culture Directorate of Higher Education No. 1 of 2020 regarding the prevention of the spread of Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) in schools and universities is one of the efforts [9]. The government, especially the ministry of education, through the circular instructs universities to organize distance learning and advises students to study from their homes. As an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19, even the world health organization recommends that a temporary suspension of activities involving crowds be enforced as an effort to prevent the potential spread of the virus. So that the form of face-to-face learning as usual which gathers many students in one room is reviewed. As much as possible schools or campuses reduce learning and assignments that require physical contact both between students and with educators [10]. One of the solutions offered is to utilize available digital technology, where it is able to connect students and teachers to keep in touch and carry out learning activities as well as giving assignments even though they are in different places.

The researcher, [11] argues that online learning is a distance learning process with the help of internet media access, which includes connectivity, accessibility, flexibility, and allows for various interactions in the learning process. Furthermore, [12] and [10] revealed that through the internet network and the use of digital technology can change the way of providing material and conveying knowledge as well as being one of the other solutions in conventional learning.

Online learning in reality, of course, requires assistance from digital devices such as gadgets, laptops, smartphones, computers and various other forms of devices whose function is of course to access information universally and globally [13]. The use of digital devices has an important role to support the online learning process and become an alternative for the successful implementation of online learning [14]. Then there are several online media that can help the learning process, for example virtual classes, there are many virtual classroom applications that are currently available and can be an option such as Edmodo, Google Classroom, zoom and online learning systems that have been provided by the campus [15], and so does [16] states that online learning can also be accessed via instant messaging applications such as WhatsApp, line and others by creating virtual class groups. In fact, now there are also some educators who innovate by using the facilities available on social media platforms that are commonly used as learning media [17].

Various benefits such as encouraging independent learning in students and students are also an impact in online learning. Because during the learning process students and students may not be accompanied directly by teachers and lecturers so that the process of obtaining more complex information or their questions must be answered independently by trying to explore and collect their own information and knowledge both in material and assignments. In the process of collecting information and exploring material, students and students can obtain it through literacy activities in activities such as reading related books, articles, journals, or can also discuss with friends [12]. The online-based learning is learning with a student-cantered approach, therefore usually a sense of responsibility and independence in students arises in learning. Where in the learning process students are required to design their learning starting from preparing themselves then the self-evaluation process to how they maintain their learning spirit [18].

The supporting factors for distance learning are what methods are used, media in learning, and how to organize the learning environment in order to make the learning situation comfortable the same as conventional meetings in order to achieve the learning objectives that have been made [10]. However, school closures have a fairly

serious effect, because schools are institutions that play an important role in children's learning and when schools close, children and youth lose the opportunity to grow and develop [4].

The losses are disproportionate to disadvantaged students who tend to have fewer educational opportunities outside of school. When schools close, parents are often asked to facilitate children's learning at home and can struggle to do this task. This applies to parents with limited education and resources. Student drop-out rates are likely to increase as a result of school closures due to the challenge of ensuring all students return to school after school closures end. This is especially true of protracted closures. Lagging, at-risk, or homeless children are more likely not to return to school after the closure ends, and the effect is often a lifetime of lost opportunities.

Schools are also centres of social activity and human interaction. When schools close, many children and youth miss out on the social contacts that are important for learning and development. This is caused by the lack of understanding of students when learning through online learning which may be caused because students find it difficult to understand the material provided online, because some students may not be able to adapt to this system where they have to look for information without clear directions or without being able to ask or ask questions. Ask the teacher to explain and review the material again and the lack of student understanding can occur due to lack of access to technology and the selection of learning facilities that are not appropriate [10].

3.2 Technology Accessibility

Lacking of access to technology or access to fast and reliable internet can be a barrier for students in rural areas and from disadvantaged families [19]. Lack of access to technology or good internet connectivity is an obstacle to participating in learning, especially for students from underprivileged families. Solutions from the policy of implementing learning from home. The government recommends schools to conduct distance learning using online media so that teachers can present learning without limited by space. As a measure to break the chain of the spread of the COVID-19 virus, hundreds of libraries have temporarily been-closed. It becomes a problem where students do not have internet access from home so they cannot access information.

3.3 Suggested Alternative

3.3.1 Checking readiness and select the most relevant tool

Determine the use of high-tech and low-tech solutions based on the reliability of local power supplies, internet

connectivity, and digital skills of teachers and students [20]. Digital learning that is integrated with platforms such as Edmodo or Google Classroom, lessons with learning video media such as Zenius or Teacher's Room, or providing material online with various platforms such as Google Meet or Zoom, to broadcasting via radio and TV. Ensure inclusion of distance learning programs, implement measures to ensure that students including those with disabilities or from low income backgrounds have access to distance learning programs, not only from these limitations, they must also have access to digital tools. Protect data privacy and data security: Value data security when uploading data or educational resources to a web space, as well as when sharing it with other organizations or individuals. Ensure that the use of applications and platforms does not violate student data privacy.

3.3.2 Prioritizing solutions to overcome psychosocial challenges before teaching

Mobilize available tools to connect schools, parents, teachers and students with one another. Create communities to ensure students can interact, enable social care actions, and address possible psychosocial challenges so students can face when they are isolated. Plan a distance-learning program to study schedule organize discussions with stakeholders to examine the possible duration of school closures and decide whether the distance-learning program should focus on teaching new knowledge or improving students' knowledge of previous lessons. Plan the schedule depending on the situation affected by the zone, the level of study, the needs of the students, and the willingness of the parents.

3.3.3 Avoiding learning methodologies that require direct face-to-face communication

Provide support to teachers and parents on the use of digital tools by arranging short training or orientation sessions for them. If monitoring and facilitation is needed, help from the teacher to prepare basic arrangements such as; internet data usage solutions, and if needed, the teacher provides live streaming of lessons. Avoid burdening students and parents by asking them to download and try too many apps or platforms. Develop distance-learning rules and monitor student-learning process. Set rules with parents and students in distance learning. Design formative questions, tests, or exercises to monitor student learning

3.3.4 Determining the duration of distance learning units based on students' self-regulation skills

Keep time appropriate to the student's level of self-regulation and cognitive abilities, especially for live streaming classes. Even though there are standard rules regarding the duration of teaching and learning hours, it

would be better if the learning designed in an attractive manner with a duration that is not so long so that student boredom does not appear. Create communities or groups and increase connections. Create a community of teachers, parents, and schools to facilitate sharing experiences and discussions about overcoming various student-learning barriers or learning difficulties experienced by students.

4. CONCLUSION

The solution to the implementation of learning during the pandemic is to apply online learning, so that it can reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Online learning gives students the freedom to get information widely from various sources. This makes students more free to construct their knowledge so that they can form personal understanding. Of course, this is only possible if the learning activities take place actively, conducive and effectively. A comprehensive effort is needed between teachers and students. Teachers must be able to create quality online learning and students must be able to follow the learning well. Minimizing the inhibiting factors starting from internet access, time constraints and the quality of learning must be addressed immediately so that online learning can be carried out properly.

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