NON-PHYSICS MAJORS' LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE IN TEACHING PHYSICS UNDER THE K TO 12 CURRICULUM: A BASIS FOR A TEACHER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM IN SCIENCE

Rochelle S. Balete, Rubie G. Tagle Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo National High School, Imus City, Cavite rochelle.balete@deped.gov.ph

Abstract

The adoption of K to 12 curriculum in the Philippines brought challenges to the junior high school Science teachers. They tend to teach concepts not within their areas of specialization. This study determined the profile of non-Physics majors and their level of confidence in teaching Physics as basis for designing a proposed teacher enhancement program. The study used a descriptive survey type of research. A questionnaire with a mixture of Likert-scale and open-ended questions was administered to the 40 non-Physics majors of Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo National High School. The data gathered were treated with the use of frequency count, percentage, weighted mean and average ranking. Also, an unstructured interview was conducted to support the findings of the study. The results revealed that all teachers have finished Science courses but with varied areas of specialism. The percentage distribution per specialization were as follows: 52.5% Biology, 27.5% General Science, 15% Chemistry and 5% Physical Science. Furthermore, the data showed that teachers were confident in teaching topics for Force and Motion and less confident in Energy with an average mean of 2.7 and 2.4 respectively. Moreover, only Chemistry Majors were confident in teaching Physics while General Science, Biology and Physical Science Majors were less confident. Conversely, only Grade 10 teachers were confident in teaching Physics. The low level of confidence was attributed to their limited knowledge, unfamiliarity of the concepts and use of mathematical skills. The results implied the need for an enhancement program such as short course in Physics, peer teaching and in-service trainings to help teachers gain self-confidence and improve the teaching-learning process in Physics. Hence, the Proposed Teacher Enhancement Program in Science (PTEPS) was planned.

Keywords: No-Physics Major, Level of Confidence, K to 12 Curriculum, Enhancement Program