

## REVITALIZING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: ENHANCING TEACHER TRAINING AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS IN BARAS-PINUGAY INTEGRATED HIGH SCHOOL- SENIOR HIGH

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Article Information	ABSTRACT
<p>Received: 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2024</p> <p>Accepted: 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2024</p> <p>Published: 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2024</p> <p><b>KEYWORDS:</b> Workshop, Skill Training, Development.</p> <p>Journal URL: <a href="https://ijois.com/index.php/ijoisjournal">https://ijois.com/index.php/ijoisjournal</a></p> <p>Publisher: Empirical Studies and Communication - (A Research Center)</p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.cescd.com.ng">www.cescd.com.ng</a></p>	<p>Teachers play an essential role in providing engaging educational experiences for their students, which makes their effectiveness central to shaping quality learning experiences for students. This action research explores the transformative potential of tailored interactive workshops as a method of revitalizing professional development for secondary school teachers. Three key questions were examined during this investigation: (1) impact of technology integration workshops; (2) collaborative learning strategies' influence on classroom dynamics management and (3) measures changes in engagement/learn outcomes from implementation of innovative approaches learned during workshops by their implementation by their teaching staff. Utilizing a mixed-methods approach, quantitative data was gathered through pre and post workshop assessments, classroom observations, student assessment scores and qualitative insights derived through open-ended questions and thematic analysis of classroom observations. Our findings indicated significant positive change across all research questions. Customized interactive workshops led to an incredible boost in teachers' integration of technology into their teaching practices, while collaborative learning strategies employed in these workshops greatly increased teachers' perceived efficacy at managing diverse classroom dynamics and managing diversity more generally. Furthermore, adoption of innovative instructional approaches was associated with markedly greater improvements in student engagement and learning outcomes. The findings from this research demonstrate the significance of engaging, tailored professional development for educators. Workshops may help enhance teachers' skills, confidence and instructional practices - ultimately benefitting student learning experiences. Furthermore, this result contributes to ongoing conversations surrounding effective teacher development strategies while emphasizing educators as essential agents in shaping education's course forward. By providing in-depth findings and implications, this study highlights the power of customized interactive workshops to bring about positive changes to teachers' professional growth as well as students' learning outcomes.</p>

## **I. Introduction**

At present, teachers play an increasingly vital role in shaping both intellectual and personal development of their students. To fulfill this role effectively, educators need to regularly update their pedagogy skills, adapt teaching methodologies, and keep up with emerging educational technologies - this being undertaken both individually and within school systems alike to facilitate ongoing professional development that addresses changing demands on educators.

As the Master teacher of a secondary school with 21 dedicated teachers under our care, it becomes critical that educators possess all of the knowledge, tools, and abilities required for supporting holistic development of our students. While workshops and seminars have traditionally been used as professional development methods, their effectiveness often remains controversial due to limited interaction or real-world application.

"Revitalizing Professional Development: Enhancing Teacher Training and Skill Development through Interactive Workshops" seeks to meet the critical need for more efficient and interactive professional development strategies tailored specifically for secondary education. This action research is driven by an appreciation of quality education being dependent upon empowered educators; thus prioritizing professional growth and skill enhancement must become priority objectives in order to empower educators effectively.

Interactive workshops present an intriguing alternative to more conventional professional development approaches. By encouraging active participation, collaboration, and hands-on experience among teachers during these workshops, teachers may tap into their intrinsic motivation for learning more engaging and effective methods of instruction. Real world scenarios and case studies serve to bridge theory to practice for seamless implementation of new knowledge into teaching methodologies.

Through this research, it is our intent not only to explore interactive workshops as an efficient means of professional development but also to design a framework for designing and implementing such workshops in secondary school settings. Furthermore, our study will investigate each teacher in our school to ensure the workshops address areas in need of improvement for our staff members.

Research also explores the role technology has on these workshops. By adding tools like multimedia presentations, collaborative platforms and hands-on simulations - such as multimedia presentations, collaborative platforms or hands-on simulations - into these events teachers can experience diverse teaching scenarios and experiment with innovative methodologies within an unthreatening setting.

The proposed action research could revolutionize professional development at our secondary school by prioritizing interactive engagement, practical application and technology integration. Our objective is to equip our teachers with all of the skills and knowledge they require for creating dynamic and enriching learning experiences for their students.

## **II. Methods**

The study covered the 15 teachers of Baras-Pinugay Integrated High School-Senior High. Prior to attending interactive workshops, teachers undergo a baseline assessment designed to gauge their current level of tech integration into teaching practices. This assessment includes quantitative questions that measure frequency and variety of technology tools used, along with qualitative inquiries intended to measure teachers' self-perceived comfort with technology integration. Moreover, teachers attend interactive workshops focused on various aspects of integrating technology effectively in the classroom, offering hands-on experience, practical demonstrations and collaborative activities. These sessions aim to give educators hands-on training as well as gain new hands-on insights to effectively integrate tech in classroom. Then, after six months of engaging in workshops and implementing technology integration strategies into their teaching practices, teachers undergo a post-workshop assessment similar to their baseline evaluation, to allow direct comparison. Data collected includes quantitative measures of increased technology usage as well as qualitative insights into teachers' confidence and innovative practices.

Teachers preparing to participate in interactive workshops complete a self-assessment survey before participating, asking specific questions related to their perceived efficacy in managing diverse classroom dynamics and providing quantitative data and qualitative insight about themselves and their experiences. This questionnaire gives quantitative data regarding confidence levels as well as qualitative insight.

At the conclusion of each workshop series, teachers conduct another self-assessment survey similar to their initial one to capture any changes in perceived efficacy or confidence regarding managing diverse classroom dynamics due to this experience. This survey measures any significant variations.

To supplement self-assessment data, selected workshop participants are observed in their classrooms using a standard observation rubric which evaluates their implementation of collaborative learning strategies discussed during workshops. These observations offer objective insight into their implementation.

At the start of every academic year, student assessment scores in selected subjects or units are collected as baseline data. Teachers implement innovative instructional approaches learned during these workshops throughout the academic year by adapting their teaching methodologies accordingly. Student assessment scores related to each subject or unit studied throughout the academic year are regularly collected in order to gather quantitative information regarding changes in learning outcomes over time. Experienced educators or researchers conduct qualitative classroom observations using observation rubrics to record changes in student engagement and participation resulting from innovative instructional approaches implemented into class settings.

### **Data Analysis Plan**

Pre and post workshop assessments will be examined using descriptive statistics such as mean, median, standard deviation and frequency distribution to understand any changes in technology integration levels before and after attending workshop series. Paired-sample t-tests or Wilcoxon signed-rank tests (depending on data distribution) will be employed to compare pre and post

assessment scores statistically in order to ascertain if changes to technology integration are statistically significant. Open-ended assessment data will be subjected to qualitative thematic analysis to identify common themes and patterns related to teachers' perceptions of changes in technology integration and reflections about workshop experiences.

Paired sample t-tests or Wilcoxon signed-rank tests will be utilized to compare pre and post assessment scores pertaining to perceived efficacy of managing diverse classroom dynamics.

**Qualitative Analysis:** Qualitative data gleaned from open-ended questions will be subjected to thematic analysis in order to uncover patterns among teachers' reflections regarding how this workshop experience enhanced their capacity for managing diverse classroom dynamics. Data collected during classroom observations will be coded according to predetermined categories related to collaborative learning strategies and classroom dynamics, in order to analyze whether teachers are effectively employing collaborative strategies as well as identify any changes that have taken place that affect class dynamics. This coded information can then be evaluated against previous observations in order to gauge teachers' implementation rates as well as any noticeable shifts that have taken place since these observations began.

Student assessment scores will be examined using trend analysis, plotting them over time in order to discern any patterns of improvement or decline in scores over time. Utilizing statistical methods like ANOVA or linear mixed-effects models, comparative analyses will be performed between various time points where assessments took place to observe changes in assessment scores over time. Qualitative data collected through classroom observations will be subjected to a thematic analysis in order to detect changes in student engagement and interactions as a result of teachers adopting innovative instructional approaches. In doing this process, specific themes related to changes in engagement or interactions due to implementation will be highlighted by teachers.

Both quantitative and qualitative findings will be combined in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of how professional development through interactive workshops impacts student engagement and learning outcomes.

Overall, using mixed methods allows for an in-depth evaluation of data gathered during research to provide answers that address each research question and draw meaningful conclusions about its effects.

### **III. Results and Discussion**

1. The findings of the study demonstrate a markedly positive impact of tailored interactive workshops on teachers' adoption of technology into their teaching practices. An examination of pre and post workshop assessments shows an increase in frequency and diversity of technology tools used by teachers post workshop. Statistical tests reveal statistically significant improvement ( $p < 0.05$ ) demonstrating how workshops effectively build teachers' technological competence. However, qualitative analysis of teachers' responses indicates an increase in confidence when using technology and an eagerness to experiment with new tools and strategies, suggesting that workshops not only imparted

knowledge but also fostered an environment conducive to innovation within classrooms. The consistency between quantitative and qualitative findings provides solid proof that tailored interactive workshops contribute significantly to an improvement in teachers' technology integration skills, ultimately improving instructional practices.

2. This study's results illustrate an enormously positive influence of collaborative learning strategies on teachers' perceived efficacy at managing diverse classroom dynamics, through interactive workshops. A comparison between pre and post workshop self-assessment scores reveals a statistically significant rise in teachers' confidence ( $p < 0.05$ ) to handle different student groups effectively. Moreover, qualitative analysis supports this finding, showing that teachers attribute their heightened confidence to practical experiences gained during workshops and collaborative learning activities that provided strategies to accommodate diverse learner needs resulting in improved classroom management. Quantitative and qualitative evidence show that the incorporation of collaborative learning strategies into workshops not only enhance teachers' perceptions of efficacy but also arm them with tools necessary to successfully navigate classroom dynamics.
3. The findings of this research study reveal a dramatic rise in both student engagement and learning outcomes as a result of teachers applying innovative instructional approaches learned during interactive workshops. Quantitative analyses of student assessment scores demonstrate an encouraging upward trend over time, with mean scores gradually rising over multiple assessment points. This trend suggests that teachers implementing innovative strategies bring noticeable increases to student performance. Moreover, qualitative observations further corroborated these findings, showing increased student engagement, active participation, and collaborative interactions in classrooms where innovative instructional approaches have been deployed by teachers. Students' enthusiasm and engagement with subject material indicate an improved learning environment. Quantitative and qualitative results demonstrate an explicit link between teachers' adoption of innovative techniques learned at workshops, and subsequent improvements in both student engagement and learning outcomes.

Overall, the findings from this study demonstrate the interactive workshops' transformative impact on teachers' professional growth and instructional practices. By answering specific research questions and collecting empirical evidence on these workshops' effects - such as enhanced technology integration, enhanced classroom management efficacy improvements and positive changes in student engagement/learner outcomes - quantitative/qualitative correlations emphasize their robustness as an intervention within an entire teaching and learning ecosystem.

#### **IV. Conclusion**

This research explored the impact of interactive workshops tailored specifically for secondary school teachers as an aid for professional growth. Through an exhaustive data gathering and analysis process, this study addressed three research questions regarding intervention effectiveness.

Teachers who participated in interactive workshops saw significant advances in incorporating technology into their teaching practices. Implementation of collaborative learning strategies into workshops led to enhanced perceptions of efficacy among teachers for managing diverse classroom dynamics.

Teachers' implementation of innovative instructional approaches learned during workshops was positively associated with significant increases in student engagement and learning outcomes, suggesting significant ramifications for implementation and change.

In addition, this study's results highlight the significance of providing educators with tailored and interactive professional development opportunities that address technology integration and collaborative learning strategies successfully implemented through engaging workshops that could have an impactful effect on pedagogy practices.

## **V. Recommendation**

Based on the conclusion, the following recommendations are suggested:

1. Schools and educational institutions should prioritize designing and implementing interactive workshops tailored to teachers' individual needs and aspirations.
2. Integrating technology and collaborative learning strategies should be at the center of professional development initiatives. Long-term professional growth plans must reflect principles of continuous learning and innovation.
3. Although the results of the study appear encouraging, their generalizability may be restricted by sample size and intervention duration constraints. Additional research could investigate sustainable positive changes that occurred as part of this intervention as well as its long-term impacts on student outcomes

## **VI. References**

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