

*Educational administration Challenges: Pathways to Modification amid COVID-19 Era**Musakkid Himpinit<sup>1</sup>, Lasisi Abass Ayodele<sup>2</sup>, Yahuza Biwai<sup>3</sup>*<sup>1</sup> Ph.D. (Education), Lecturer, Faculty of Education, Fatoni University, Thailand<sup>2</sup> Ph.D. (Education), Lecturer, Faculty of Education, Federal University of Kashere, Nigeria<sup>3</sup> Lecturer, Faculty of Education, Federal University of Kashere, Nigeria**Abstract**

*The world and citadels of learning are not prepared for the pandemic experiencing that serves as superfluous challenge to-date in education industries. In the course of covid-19 pandemic, curriculum is lacking revision, teaching-learning and teachers' new strategies are yet to be known, home and family influence are other challenges towards educational goals achievement. Early diagnosis and remedy was partially found in order to bring the students and teachers back into learning field as it was before. Likewise, medical and health officers were burst into serious research and educational researchers are of efficient to find the lasting solution in order to back the students into school. Unfortunately, the increase rate of the pandemic is beyond a nation's effort. Although, the idea of technology Apps (Applications) involvement is truly came in as one of the answer towards learning challenges amid of Covid-19 era but poor economy overrule the uses of internet data among Nigerian parents. However, Mixed-Method was employed in this research which involves administrators for qualitative interview while quantitative method involves 156; teachers, aspiring teachers and schools' administrators with Cronbach alpha  $\alpha=0.891$ . Findings reveal that modification is required participate in workshop by the teachers, constant monitoring of students and uses of technological Apps as added advantage amid Covid-19 Era. Nevertheless, numbers of recommendations and important suggestions were ideal while monitoring as directed by the Nigeria Center for Disease Control included.*

**Keywords:** Education, Administration, Curriculum, Technology Apps, Parent, Covid-19



## Introduction

Why is learning tough if not impossible amid of COVID-19 pandemic era? This is the question underlying debate about the pandemic experience in the field of education around the world. Recently, trends of increase in number of death around the world indicate there is shift in actual position of effective education and school as teaching-learning field which is beyond four-walls and face-to-face methods of learning only due to higher rate of death which has become superfluous challenge facing educational system today. The bringers, students and benefactor of the knowledge and champion of the system are nowhere to be placed in educational system due to outbreak of covid-19 pandemic. Is it possible for schools to be likely a teaching-learning ground and knowledge acquired center or be a tightly controlled place of learning by the situation at hand amid of COVID-19 pandemic era? By thinking critically, this problem is a fact for the critical thinkers in educational administration and planning field who supposed to find a solution to that, without asking “Why problem is being faced by the educational institution or society”. This question also shown clearly that the options for funding education has become more limited with government while others institutions were fighting for more wages due to higher expenses at homes during COVID-19 pandemic. Meanwhile, education institution/school provides opportunities for students to come together as peers and engage in different activities in order to achieve a goal. This is not further encourages the students and teachers coming together as before that leads to “social distancing” formulae. Admittedly, covid-19 pandemic has become superfluous challenge for all and made educational administrator’s effort out-of-the-way toward achieving the design goal and quality of education (Hairuddin et. al., 2019; Lasisi and Musa, 2020).

## COVID-19 Pandemic as Superfluous Challenge to Education and its Administration

Education administration is the total control of both human and other physical resources in the citadel of learning. Recently, Covid-19 has brought confusion in school and its administration both local and nation-wide. The pandemic is terrible fast spread disease. To recall, the name is in Latin which mean “crown”. This is because the virus looks like crown when viewed under microscope. It is a respiratory disease caused by the Corona virus that affects the respiratory system and brings harm to the system. The virus spread from a person to another through infected droplet that are projected during sneezing or cough. It spreads when human have contact with each other by hand shaking or from other surfaces of objects that have contact with the virus. The virus enters the human body through the eyes, mouth, and nose. However, this infection should be noticed through signs and symptoms such as shortness of breath, severe cough over time, fever, fatigue, sore throats, runny nose, headache, muscle ache and pains. Nevertheless, the



symptom is of different with individuals depending on situation and age. Health and Educational Researchers' Efforts amid COVID-19 Pandemic are tremendous some stress that personal hygiene is one of the condition to impede the virus. This is through nail cutting, bathing regularly, washing our cloth after used per day, and other regular hygiene to support neatness of preventing spread. Similarly, it was opined that regular hand washing with soap under running water is one of the idea to encumber this virus, while uses of hand sanitizer and face mask in any occasion and around the community is better. Social distancing is another means of keeping away from each other in a gathering places or crowd in order to ride-out the virus in our society. In this regard, Sanitation and vaccination are included as the advanced towards extra challenges facing the world while a lot of money had been spent on drug for prevention among dwellers in each community. Thus, health officers advise each an individual to visit the hospital that is specific for Covid-19 when noticed the symptoms. In this hospital or medical center for disease control, treatment relies on Antiviral medication, breathing support machine called mechanical ventilator and regular rest acquired. Based on the above, students need exposure in order to develop while schools are under pressure from community of how to bring back the student in four-wall of classroom. Hence, different ideas were being negotiated before technology involvement being considered (such as online) by some institutions around the world.

### Technology APPs Involvement amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Edward De Bono (1976) stated that "An individual who can be analytical should be able to pose a relevant question, collect relevant information, logically interpret the information he obtains, and draw accurate and reasonable world conclusions that allows him or her to live and act effectively". Based on challenges facing the world not only education and learning strategy amid of Covid-19, it help in collecting few information which is appropriate for educational improvement however, the question pose that is there any move towards continuity in the uses and strategies to face future challenge? By draw accurate conclusion towards the incoming uses of technology, the administrators might have logically test and view that technology is adequate for teaching-learning in this era along with Covid-19 pandemic. Advances and improvements in technology have mandated that teachers should be teaching students how to think critically and in order to relief of learning challenge in era of covid-19 pandemic. This information is reasonable and many institutions embark on the uses of technology Apps for learning such as Zoom, Google etc. Nevertheless, for continuity of learning through technology might futile due to the high demand in terms of data connections and spending huge amount of money to service the network being ails and students themselves are handle the strategies with levity while lonely during online teaching without concentration. Although, there are several ways to control and



achieve the aim of education through uses of technology Apps but monitoring, parental collaboration, and having integration in curriculum requires.

### Curriculum Review amid COVID-19 Pandemic era

Already, 21<sup>st</sup> century has sent negation of improving the curriculum where some countries have started integrating significant concepts for the improvement of curriculum. On the other hand, it is important to equip the new generation with the new skills towards learning challenges amid of covid-19 experiencing to-date. Facing the challenges, noticed requirement of amending the curriculum and instruction is very vital in this era of covid-19 as few or none argument in the literature toward integration of online teaching in schools as far as education is concern. Similarly, previous research stresses that only 21percent of teachers believe they are prepared to integrate educational technology into classroom (Jeanne and Floyd, 2012:167) diminutive of saying online teaching-learning due to pandemic of Covid-19. Paul (1995) stresses that a great deal of community college learning is delivered by lectures, with professors reciting facts and information as students sit in the class passively absorbing the knowledge. Teaching through technology Apps as such is a good initiative that should be a stand-alone method in curriculum in order for students to understand the importance and implementations of the off-class learning to face future change in education as the sudden of covid-19 unprepared era occurs among the administrators, stakeholders, parents and student world-wide. This study still reminds the curriculum experts to revisit the bloom taxonomy. It has elaborated the improvement and amends the creation of new generation curriculum for integration and call for revision by curriculum experts, therefore administrators are expected to follow procedure based on the new amendment of bloom taxonomy in 21<sup>st</sup> century as show in figure 1:

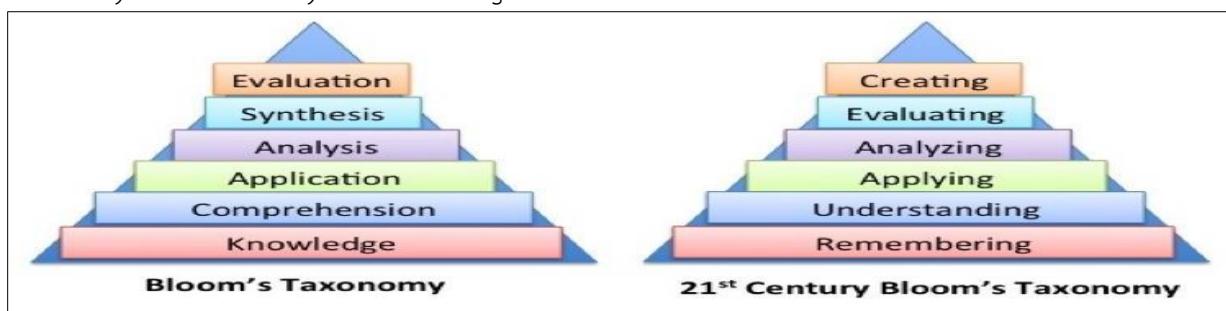


Figure 1: 21<sup>st</sup> Bloom's Taxonomy

Source: Manley (2013)

Briefly, Anderson and Krathwohl were behind the new update towards improvement of Bloom's taxonomy in 2001 in order to match more outcome-focused of contemporary

educational goals. This was done through changing the name of the significant active verbs and revisiting the order of the two highest taxonomy levels. To move the present generation to great initiatives, the lowest level turn to be known as remembering, follow by understanding, applying, analysing, evaluating while the highest level is known to be creating (Huit, 2011). In this sense, the taxonomy is adapted as classroom planning tool in education especially in learning objectives where students' learning experience can be planned from simple form or low level to more complex or higher level of cognitive processes. Curriculum experts, teachers and administrators are to be more familiar with taxonomy in order to help the students exploring the needs of the new generation, technology improvement skills and to prepare them for future challenges amid covid-19 era. Nevertheless, adjustment to the curriculum and let other skills become stand-alone aspect for facing unawares challenge of the future like that of Covid-19 pandemic in educational system.

### **Teachers and Teaching Strategies Improvement amid of COVID-19 Pandemic era**

Teaching and teachers strategy towards learning in the mist of challenges in the course of covid-19 is to be reinforced by both the teachers and school administrators among the students for effectiveness achievement of educational goal. According to Jeanne and Floyd (2012:82) "the teacher expects certain behaviors from child and child responds to the expectations, once this pattern is established it is hard to alter". Reinforced here is for teachers who are readily available to give more valuable critical thinking courses/subjects to the students in order to monitor time and improve instinct. Although, teachers' methods of teaching are of different depend on condition and situation of the classroom (Biwai, Hamza, & Lasisi, 2020) but challenges facing in covid-19 era has necessitate the reinforcement by adjusting the simple teaching strategy used. In order for both teacher and student acquired accurate knowledge to harmonize the problem of teaching-learning in the era of covid-19, total control and consistently monitoring should be implemented by the teacher while reinforcing teaching-learning for effective achievement by the students. It is important either through uses of technological Apps or flexible face-to-face method should be under observation of covid-19 measures by the health officers nation-wide. Although, uses of online allows interaction likewise but interaction in face-to-face needs total monitoring as directed by the Nigeria Center for Disease Control measures. Thus, teachers have lot to do in terms of reinforcement strategy to assist in achieving quality education in covid-19 era because social distancing and putting of face mask are compulsory if implementing group teaching or classroom.

### **Parents and School's Community Collaborations amid COVID-19 Pandemic era**



Students come in many sizes, shapes, intellectual capacities, and motivation levels. They can be active learners, passive attendees, or disruptive troublemakers (Jeanne and Floyd, 2012). Students' activities must be taken into account in understanding their experience during lockdown amid of covid-19 pandemic. Home and family influences or collaboration with school administrators is way out towards learning achievement during challenges amid of COVID-19 era. No system can work without individuals who fill the necessary roles, which in turn bring the system alive. Roles refer to the parts individuals play in the social system of education (Jeanne and Floyd, 2012). However, parent and school community most especially the administrators should identified the interest of the parent by analyzing the information provided either uses of questionnaire or strategic view during Parent Teacher Association (PTA) together with national council for disease control measures to curtail the covid-19 pandemic in order to achieve aim and objectives of education. Thus, modification is required amid of Covid-19 Era (as in Figure 2).

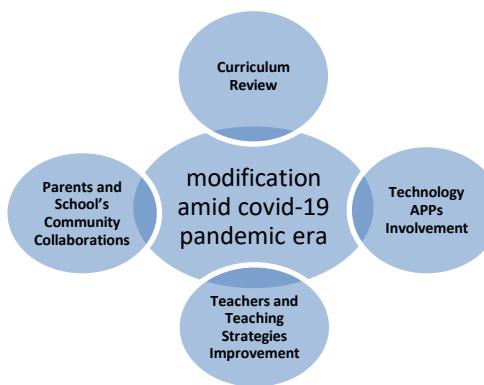


Figure 2: Dynamic modification amid covid-19 pandemic era (*Proposed for study only*)

### Methodology

Briefly, mixed-method was employed in carrying out the results of this research. Initially, qualitative analysis was done through uses of interview method before quantitative analysis based on simple random sampling method for administers of the questionnaires. In order to simplifying the findings, demographic information from respondent involves the teachers, aspiring teachers and schools' administrators for further report:

### Research Questions based on results:



**RQ1. How strong the teaching-learning and administration challenges amid covid-19?**

Two administrators were employed as respondent (RS) for the above main research question through short interview, coding and transcription was done for generating the themes (as underlined): From the initial respondent (RS1) it was inferred that covid-19 is real by given examples of major players of nation administrator, then how strong the challenge emphasis that normal activities is difficult in school to be carried out even with the teachers and students.

RS1: *I will let you know that top administrators died of covid-19 which shows how strong the outbreak world-wide, likewise the schools' activities of normal position is not possible now as then...*

RS2: *"Of course, everybody world-wide including china the origin of this virus understood the damage done to the education..., administrators' performance is limited due to different measures prescribed by the Nigeria center for disease control which reduce strategic way of teaching and so on..."*

According to the two respondents (RS1 and RS2) they stress that there is strong challenge in which reduces the effort and tasks of the administrators in the schools. Thus, it is important to find ways to return school into its normal activities.

**RQ2. To what extent does an education and administration challenge be modified amid Covid-19 era?**

As way forward of the strong challenges facing the education and administrators, modification is required amid of Covid-19 Era. However, main data was collected through PMI questionnaire with three likert scale of acronym P that stands for Plus further indicates as *Added Advantage* while M stands for Minus that indicates *More Disadvantage* and I stands for *Interesting* which is neither advantage nor disadvantage. This serves an indication of "how strong the teaching-learning and administration challenges are" and what is the way-out in the midst of Covid-19 era? This instrument under-goes face-validity and reliability test for descriptive results. The instrument consists of 15 structured questions in which only 10 items find reliable and valid after examine through pilot study with 40 respondents, for main data collection which involves 156 teachers, aspiring teachers and schools' administrators based on simple random sampling technique. With regards to pilot study, the reliability value of Cronbach alpha  $\alpha=0.891$  was generated that indicates the remaining 10 items are enough and fit for further analysis on pathways to modification amid covid-19 era. The table 1 illustrates the demographic information of the participants:

**Table 1: Demographic Information of Participants**

Gender	Frequency	Percent	Occupation	Frequency	Percent
Male	100	64.1%	Teacher	71	45.5%

Female	56	35.9%	Aspiring Teacher	53	34.0%
			School	32	20.5%
			Administrator		
Total	156	100%	Total	156	100%

Table 2: shown the output based on remaining reliability items for descriptive analysis uses of the frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation to answer *the extent an education and administration challenge be modified amid Covid-19 era* as follows:

**Table 2: Descriptive Analysis**

PMI Questionnaire on Education and Administration Challenges amid of Covid-19 Era

sn	Items	P Freq %	M Freq %	I Freq %	Mean & SD
1	Revisiting the curriculum amid of covid-19 era	78 50.0%	51 32.7%	27 17.3%	1.6731 .75488
2	Parental involvement in school activities amid of covid-19 era	79 50.6%	47 30.1%	30 19.2%	1.6859 .77713
3	Equipping teachers with skills to improve their teaching-learning strategies in era of covid-19	96 61.5%	35 22.4%	25 16.0%	1.5449 .75642
4	Participate in workshop by the teachers and administrators regarding measures on covid-19	97 62.2%	26 16.7%	33 21.2%	1.5897 .81812
5	Teaching-learning online should be stand-alone in curriculum of schools to face covid-19 pandemic challenges	56 35.9%	56 35.9%	44 28.2%	1.9231 .79950
6	learning in the era of covid-19, total control and consistent monitoring should be implemented by the teacher	89 57.1%	30 19.2%	37 23.7%	1.6667 .83730
7	Home and family collaboration with school administrators is way out towards learning achievement amid of COVID-19 era	91 58.3%	34 21.8%	31 19.9%	1.6154 .79888



8	Monitoring both teachers and student by schools' administrators as directed by the Nigeria Center for Disease Control amid of COVID-19 era	97 62.2%	33 21.2%	26 16.7%	1.5449 .76490
9	implementing standard awareness measures on covid-19 infection among students is very important	112 71.8%	23 14.7%	21 13.5%	1.4167 .71805
10	Getting lasting solution to covid-19 pandemic for achievement of educational goal required uses of technological Apps (Applications)	94 60.3%	28 17.9%	34 21.8%	1.6154 .82275

How strong it is and how learning is tough if not impossible amid of COVID-19 pandemic era. Table 2 above illustrates that three major aspect worth of look into in order to be moderation amid covid-19 era. Firstly, majority of the respondent (89, 57.1%) emphasized that learning in the era of covid-19, total control and consistent monitoring should be implemented by the teacher as an added advantage while, only few (30, 19.2%) indicate that learning in the era of covid-19, total control and consistent monitoring should be implemented by the teacher. Meanwhile, some (37, 23.7%) believe that learning in the era of covid-19, total control and consistent monitoring should be implemented by the teacher sound quiet interesting to be of neither advantage nor disadvantage to face education and administration challenges in Covid-19 era. In this regard, it is advisable that learning in the era of covid-19, total control and consistent monitoring should be implemented by the teacher as the mean (1.6667) and standard deviation (.83730) encourages as significant.

Furthermore, majority of the respondent (94, 60.3%) emphasized that getting lasting solution to covid-19 pandemic for achievement of educational goal required uses of technological Apps (Applications) as an added advantage while, only few (28, 17.9%) indicate that getting lasting solution to covid-19 pandemic for achievement of educational goal required uses of technological Apps (Applications). Meanwhile, some (34, 21.8%) believe that getting lasting solution to covid-19 pandemic for achievement of educational goal required uses of technological Apps (Applications) sound quiet interesting to be of neither advantage nor disadvantage to face education and administration challenges in Covid-19 era. In this regard, it is advisable that getting lasting solution to covid-19 pandemic for achievement of educational goal required uses of technological Apps (Applications) as the mean (1.6154) and standard deviation (.82275) encourages as significant.

Lastly, majority of the respondent (97, 62.2%) emphasized that Participate in workshop by the teachers and administrators regarding measures on covid-19 as an added advantage while, only few (26, 16.7%) indicate that Participate in workshop by the teachers and administrators



regarding measures on covid-19. Meanwhile, some (33, 21.2%) believe that Participate in workshop by the teachers and administrators regarding measures on covid-19 sound quiet interesting to be of neither advantage nor disadvantage to face education and administration challenges in Covid-19 era. In this regard, it is advisable that Participate in workshop by the teachers and administrators regarding measures on covid-19 as the mean (1.5897) and standard deviation (.81812) encourages as significant. Admittedly, the findings of the study are consistent with findings of Visvanathan and Panneer Selvam (2014) who concluded that online teaching required more knowledge as the teacher need much time for professional development.

### 5.0 Advantages of Covid-19 era towards modification in educational administration

Learning in changing world amid of COVID-19 has been a great pact to education administration due to its aid in allowing administrators know, generate new knowledge and skills towards achieving the aim of education in difficult time. It helps to improve the traditional teachers' manner of uses of technology toward modern day of learning and uses of other technology devices. It enables the administrator select the right strategies on what they believe that will help to achieve the target goal for quality of education (Lasisi and Musa, 2020). Covid-19 is a challenge to education enables the uses of massive information to be an inform technique on decision making in changing the world of education. Pandemic has been of abet in facilitating the improvement among technological users and administrators being applied technical knowledge towards improvement of teaching skills and generating new knowledge in a changing world amid of covid-19 pandemic. Thus, amid of covid-19 era has make a purposeful, significant and impartial decision towards curriculum integration, teaching and teachers strategies and reflection on home and parent needs and collaboration to achieve the educational demands.

### Conclusion

This study perceive pandemic has been the abet facilitating the improvement among technological users and administrators. Teachers are advice to see the era of covid-19 as way-out to increase the knowledge by participate in workshop for achievement of educational goal. Covid-19 era is a challenge which draws most of teachers and administrators to think critically with regards to face future challenges as other countries are witness the second wave of covid-19 era around the world. Hence, monitoring should be implemented by the teacher in order to stop spreading of this deadly disease among the children by following the directed measures by the Nigeria Center for Disease Control amid of COVID-19 era.

### Recommendations and Suggestions



As the study tested the concepts of curriculum revision, effective teacher and teaching-learning strategies be identified, home and school community collaboration, the finds revealed that learning in the era of covid-19, total control and consistent monitoring should be implemented by the teacher, getting lasting solution to covid-19 pandemic for achievement of educational goal required uses of technological Apps (Applications), and finally participate in workshop by the teachers and administrators regarding measures on covid-19 are the pathways towards education and administrations' challenges modification amid COVID-19 era in schools. Recommended is that few researches should be done by testing the variables in this study with large population among the teachers and administrators in different schools.

## References

- Biwai, Y., Hamza, M. A., & Lasisi, A. A. (2020), Physics Teachers' Demography on the use of teaching methods in senior secondary schools of Gombe State, Nigeria, *Kashere Journal of Education (KJE)*, Vol.1, no. 1, p113-120
- Edward De Bono (1976) in De Bono, E (2007), *De Bono's thinking course*, (6<sup>th</sup> ed.) UK: Educational Publishers LLP
- Hairuddin Moh'd Ali, Lasisi Abass Ayodele, & Mohd Burhan Ibrahim (2019), The future sustainability of Malaysian Higher Education Institutions: What Matters Most, *Asian Academic of Management Journal*, Vol. 24, Supp. 1, p171-186
- Jeanne, H. Ballantine and Floyd, M. Hammack (2012), *The Sociology of Education: A Systematic Analysis*, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed., Boston: Pearson Education, Inc
- Lasisi Abass Ayodele and Musa Muhammed (2020), Transformation Factors Assessment towards Quality Assurance Achievement in Nigerian Universities: Confirmatory Factor Analysis, *International Journal of Educational Management (IJEM)*, Vol.18 No.2, p45-56
- Paul, R.W. (1995), *Critical thinking: How to prepare students for a rapidly changing world*. Santa Rosa, CA: Foundation for Critical Thinking
- Visvanathan, G. G and Panneer Selvam, S. K (2014), *Elements of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education*, India: Random Publications, p120

