



PSD CONDUCTS INSET 2025

by Abigail Baladad, Tracey Desierto, JC Jaucian, Mark Nucos, Anika Valencia

Philippine School Doha organized an In-Service Education and Training (INSET) themed ***'Empowering Educators: Strengthening Professional Development for the MATATAG Curriculum and Well-being Support'*** to foster professional growth among its school personnel through different seminars from July 20-24 at the EVB Gymnasium and Audio-Visual Room.

Throughout the event, educators, administrators, and staff attended a series of pre-opening sessions focused on improving teaching strategies in the digital age, emphasizing the importance of mental health, and assessing previous norms in order to adapt to a new curriculum.

During his keynote speech, the school principal, **Dr. Alexander S. Acosta**, addressed the implementation of the MATATAG curriculum and the changes it could bring to the school community. He especially elaborated on the effects it could have on the well-being of teachers and students, advising them to maintain a healthy mindset throughout the transition. He shared,

"We need to equip ourselves for this new MATATAG curriculum."

Following an earlier INSET by the Association of Philippine School Overseas (APSO) alongside Phoenix Publishing House, the school facilitated an **Echo Seminar** that revisited topics such as the role of teachers in AI-integrated classrooms, student well-being, and curriculum alignment with the MATATAG Curriculum.

In one of the four sessions, **Mrs. Riela Y. Lapuz, MAEd**, discussed reshaping instructional strategies with Artificial Intelligence. She presented AI as a means to engage students in innovative and individualized learning, shifting its use from transactional to transformative.

Additionally, for two days, **Dr. Sheila Marie G. Hogson**, a consultant of the Unilab Foundation, led the **'R.A.C.E. (Recognize, Assess, Convince, Entrust) Against Suicide'** seminar, which aims to raise awareness about Filipino youth experiencing suicidal tendencies. She discussed tell-tale symptoms of students who did not have emotional support and ways for effective early intervention, emphasizing educators' responsibility to protect students.

Moreover, staff were also oriented on the Qatar National School Accreditation (QNSA) process and given a general overview of the PSD Employee Manual, which included updates aligned with the latest guidelines from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE).

Lastly, **Mr. Ernesto Eric A. Chua III**, AraLinks EdTech Specialist and Assistant Manager for Strategic Implementation, was the resource speaker for a seminar titled, **"Code to Learn: Integrating Coding Across the Curriculum."** He reintroduced Aralinks Coding Education (ACE) to the teachers through multiple coding sites and proposed transforming performance tasks into ACE projects.

The INSET 2025 aims to strengthen the institution's educators in their commitment to student-centered learning for every upcoming school year before the start of classes.



Educators pay close attention while taking a pre-test for **Dr. Sheila Marie G. Hogson's** seminar.



Teachers engage in hands-on coding activities in full focus through the introduction of the Makey-makey kit.



The teachers follow and code along as they create a space game.



The AraLinks Coding Education team, alongside the PSD Vice Principals, receive awards with a smile during a photo opportunity.



Dr. Hogson showcases a video presentation during her R.A.C.E. (Recognize, Assess, Convince, Entrust) Against Suicide seminar.



In deep focus, the teachers cooperate to examine a document in detail.



With all ears, teachers attentively observe the presentation to prepare for a fruitful school year.



To commemorate the event, school personnel form a circle and join hands for a shared purpose.