

[Translated editorial]

Educational Innovation and Professional Development: a Comprehensive Approach in Contemporary Education

Innovación Educativa y Desarrollo Profesional: un enfoque Integral en la Educación Contemporánea

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In the current era of rapid technological advances, social changes and new educational demands, innovation in the field of education is presented as both a challenge and an opportunity to transform teaching-learning processes and promote teachers' professional development. In this context, it is essential to adopt a comprehensive approach that allows to holistically address the challenges and opportunities that arise in contemporary education.

It is important to note that: “the 21st century teacher is an extended expression that emphasizes the digital facet of the teacher, and his or her skills to design, implement and evaluate a teaching-learning experience using technology” (Boumadan Hamed et al., 2022, p. 317).

Aparicio Gómez (2023) refers that: “the integration of innovation in education and the strengthening of professional development are key to enhance educational quality and ensure equity and inclusion in education systems” (p. 582).

Educational innovation and curriculum management are considered to be closely interrelated. The introduction of innovative approaches to teaching and learning requires teachers to be flexible and adaptable. It also implies constantly analyzing, renewing and updating documents in order to integrate new actions, methodologies, technologies and educational resources.

Researchers such as Soto-Valera, et. al (2023) state that:

There are several pillars that are crucial when designing and implementing a proposal of technological innovation in the educational field. We can

distinguish two large groups: the factors linked to teaching activity, and those that refer to the organizational dimension (p. 43).

In this edition, the journal presents a selection of articles that address in a profound and rigorous manner the subject of educational innovation and professional development in contemporary education. Through empirical research, theoretical reflections and practical experiences, the authors contribute to the academic debate and offer ways to improve educational practices and promote the professional growth of teachers.

The articles selected in this edition invite reflection, debate and action for a more innovative, inclusive education focused on the integral development of students for the continuous improvement of education.

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