A CALL FOR PARENTS’ INVOLVEMENT

by:
Eloisa A. Irasga
Teacher III, Limay Senior High School

“Families are the compass that guides us. They are the inspiration to reach great heights and our comfort when we occasionally falter” as stated by Henley (2019). Indeed, family is an institution that guides and builds the human being of a child. In their home start the values, beliefs and habits they manifest and walk through their lives. As the parents form the discipline over their children, they also start inculcating and motivating their children to look into their studies, thus, study habits are formed at the early stage of their lives.

Although, nowadays, parental involvement is one of the issues being raised specifically when a child turns junior high school or senior high school student. Parents tend to neglect and monitor their children which affect their academic performance. This parent involvement to the child’s education is consistently found to be positively associated with the academic performance specifically to senior high school intelligence as found by Topor et al. (2012) in their study.

Moreover, the study conducted by Paul & Ngirande (2014) stated that home and family support were found to be the most significant factors that determine a learner’s performance. Thus, there is a need for the parents to engage themselves in the education of their children.
However, in many public schools in the Philippines, teachers have difficulty of encouraging parents to participate and attend school-related activities and meetings. They will only be forced to attend when they find out that their child manifests misbehavior and causes trouble in the school. Worst scenario is when they learn that their child has a failing grade. As a result, they will put the blame on the teacher who habitually informs them on the child performance, but they often neglect.

There is a need to awaken the parents on the benefits of their engagement in school. The child, the parent, the teacher and the school would gain from it. Students will have a chance of getting high grades and a possibility to be awarded as “with honors”. These increase their confidence for they feel loved, supported, and secured. They are also self-motivated to do school tasks such as homework, performances, and the like.

On the part of the parents, this brings emotional attachment, and opens communication with the children. Parents can eye the whereabouts of their teens, so, the youth will be guided to have a decent and safe life. Parents will also be aware of the policy of the school.

Parents’ involvement can also be beneficial to school, since they will work hand in hand with the teacher. They can give their assistance with the needs of the school and of the teacher. They can also have an open communication with the administrator for further school development. Most importantly, engagement of parents in school helps the school achieve more goals and more quality education.
Spending time and giving attention to the child’s education should be the foremost priority of all parents. The entire educational system prospers, from students to teachers to parents themselves, when parents foster an atmosphere of learning and collaborate with educators. (Liftoff, 2014).

Mga Sanggunian:
