DE-STRESSING DISTRESSED CLASSROOMS

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The ideal classroom if to be considered as conducive to learning is expected to be well lit, well ventilated, well structured, well organized. But, how often can we see a classroom where all of these indicators are present? Come to think of it not all the times.

There are some instances that the classroom is poorly constructed or not well managed, untidy and very much unorganized. In one corner you will see trash and rubbish on the floor or the book shelf is filled with books and dust and even cobwebs as well. Curtains were not regularly washed and replaced and the chalkboard is filled with chalk dust.

The students will not be expected to give a very sound output in learning if these conditions exist. The environment where the student interacts with has a definite influence and impact to the learning habits developed. If the students is often exposed to disturbing and stressful situations found in the classroom, then the student will not have the eagerness to come to class let alone learn.

The teacher must be able to provide remedy to this situation. And this does not mean very expensive materials as bulletin board decorations or fancy window curtains.

One innovative example a teacher did to his classroom wall is he decorated it with corrugated card boards taken from cut out boxes of juice drinks. He arranged it in such a way that the carton cut outs resembled adobe bricks. Since the wall already had worn out paint, that served as a vintage looking background for the carton cut outs. There were three old style brick windows which served as bulletin boards. And I can remember how the students were amazed and were eager to return to class everyday just to gaze in the brick wall decorations.
But reorganizing the classroom need not be as tedious as decorating walls. Simple, clean and well organized classrooms are enough to foster good teaching and learning experience. Ensuring the room is clean every time the class begins is a sure way to facilitate learning. If books are piling up on top of the other then arrange them properly and cover them up with a nice cloth so as not to become an eye sore. Blackboards if kept nice and neat will serve as inspiration to students. Giving them the sense that even after at the end of the day and the board had so much written on it, if erased neatly would mean a fresh new start. Waste disposal if properly handled and instilled into the minds of the students will no longer be a problem to ponder with. All these simple things are more than enough to inspire every student to study hard.

The teacher need not spend too much on decorations or displays or even curtains. All he/she needs to do is keep it clean, simple and well structured

References: