ENCOURAGING PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT FOR THE NEW NORMAL

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In this game-changing situation, teachers and parents must work hand in hand for the successful learning to happen in this time of pandemic. Parents are called upon not only for simple involvement but also for collaboration in teaching their child.

Parental involvement means that parents are directly involved in the education of their students. They fulfill their duties as parents in making sure that the learner is assisted in the process of learning as much as they possibly can. Parents should have a clear mindset that they will be involved in the process of learning since they are now considered as facilitators of learning. According to Garcia and Thornton (2014), parental involvement of family in learning results in improved student’s performance and behavior and developed confidence.

Getwicki (2010) pointed out the benefits of teachers of working with parents. There is an increased knowledge for parents about the learner which enables the teacher to be more effective with the child. There will be greater positive feedback which increases competence in their profession. Parental resources will be available to supplement learning and reinforce their own efforts in providing an enlarged world of learning.

As teachers, we have to be aware of the parents’ concerns with regards to involvement for the new learning process. There is this lack of confidence to pull off teaching. There may also be a problem in flexibility for working parents. There is also
fear that they don’t know how to teach their child and most importantly the assurance of support from teachers that we will be there always every step of the way.

How can we encourage parents in this journey wherein there will be no face to face interactions inside the classroom to ensure the safety of everyone while waiting for the situation to become manageable? Teachers should acknowledge the fact that delivery of instruction will be better with parental involvement. Since parents are also new to this, proper and clear orientation and awareness should be done. To boost their confidence and remove their anxiety, teachers should lead them, guide them and be with them every step of the way. Parents also should be provided with webinars on readying them for the new normal. Providing open communication is also of utmost importance to carry this task of assisting teachers in the delivery of instruction.

On these trying times, all we need to do is to have a proper mindset of everything. Empowering ourselves and our dear parents will draw better results. That as we go along, everything will fall again into its proper places.

References: