ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION

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Student engagement refers to the degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism, and passion that students show when they are learning or being taught, which extends to the level of motivation they have to learn and progress in their education. It is a belief that learning is better if students are inquisitive, interested, inspired and on the other hand learning is difficult if they are bored, detached, not affected, or otherwise “disengaged”. (Great Schools Partnership, n.d.)

It is in this very reason that educators are focusing on instructional objectives on improving and a stronger student engagement. The real challenge is that improving engagement is easier said than done. Primary and secondary students are the most difficult ages to try to teach. Courage is what teachers need for his kind of situation.

According to Dr. Richard D. Jones, an author and senior consultant at the International Center for Leadership in Education, engagement among students is completely on the teachers shoulders. Teachers cannot simply say students should listen or participate. He or she should do some innovations and make some follow through. (Concordia University, n.d.)

Basic and simple ways of enhancing the engagement skills in the classroom will be suggested in this article. First, try to utilize the 10:2 method. For every 10 minutes of classroom discussion give the students 2 minutes to grasp the ideas given and respond to the lesson. They can do it by writing, questioning, and diad or small group discussions. (Hurst, 2013) Another one is by building deeper relationships with the students. When
students feel that their teachers value them, they are much more willing to follow instructions and participate in any activities that will be given them. Teachers should give ample time to know each student. A one-on-one sessions is encouraged. Teachers are encouraged to look for their student’s individual learning styles. This will give much opportunities for engagement. Then try to involving everyone. This not only pertains to activities within the classroom. It should go out from there. It is not enough that only one teacher or two to be committed. The whole faculty are encouraged to be involved.

Student engagement is a very essential element in the learning process. There’s a lot of good resources that may possibly help in understanding this educational component. May it open to more possibilities and innovations in strengthening it.

References:
