HOME VISITATION: A KEY FOR A CHILD’S TOTAL DEVELOPMENT

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A four-walled classroom, a six-hour stay, an hour of discussion and interaction is sometimes not enough in order for the teachers to discover the personalities and interests of their students. Sometimes, they opt to go beyond the classroom setting just to break the barriers that possibly hinder the learning process of students. It is one of the teachers' sacrifices – extending working hours just to reach out for their lost sheep.

One of the primary goals of the teachers is finding out the needs and interests of students through home visitation. It also opens the hope of increasing connections between the teacher and the family of the students. It also builds bridges toward the student and the teacher. Once this is established, students are more enthusiastic to learn knowing that their teacher, as well as their family, has their back. Indeed, encouragement is vital for a learner’s development.

Gaylor and Spiker (2012) emphasized that a students’ growth and development is a product of home visiting programs which are designed and implemented to support families. Home visitation is also an effective way of showing concern to students with challenging behavior. Finding out the reason behind such behavior is important; not only does it helps resolve the problem, but it is a way to reach out to the students’ family for extra attention and guidance to the learner. According to Dela Rosa (2015) in her article entitled “The Importance of Home Visits: A Teacher’s Point of View”, home visitation has certain goals: bridging cultural barriers, reporting on academic progress, enlisting parental support, increase academic achievement, and provide parents the tools to do so. Thus, it totally hones students to a total development. It also helps parents to improve
their parenting skills by providing necessary information on the different aspects of positive family relationships and functioning.

Hence, a home visitation is a way to bridge the gap between school and home; this results to the child’s holistic development. It deepens the partnership of teacher and parent for the child’s success. It is also an effective way to combat the fear of the students because they are able to see friendly and caring teachers which visits them in their homes and sacrifices their time just to know more about them, to learn about their needs, interests and concerns in order to establish rapport with them and their parents.

References:
