HOME VISITS: BUILDING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TEACHERS AND PARENTS

by:
Marygrace N. Santos
Teacher III, Magsaysay National High School

Home visitation is composed of simple concept, it is applying a get-to-know approach. It is considered to be a positive method of dealing student’s absenteeism, usually do not focus on academic reason and more on checking student’s family background. Teachers interview the parents about their interest, the things they anticipate to happen, and their dreams and how do they value education. Encourage parents to visit the school or attend certain school program or school function and inspire them to share what they think of a particular student in a positive way.

Mostly, parents have negative notion about home visitation, they usually think that the teachers are visiting their home to scold their children due to long absence from the school. However, parents must understand that keeping in touch with teachers are one of the responsibilities of parents that they have to perform especially if their children have educational difficulties.

Moreover, home visitation is not only being administered to delinquent students but also to those students who wants to excel in class. Researches propose that a main key to student’s academic achievement is having parents who are involved in school matters. According to Erhgood, teachers are good in instructions and parents are expert when it comes their children, therefore teachers and parents need each other for the betterment of the students.

In United States, home visit plays a significant role in life of the students, parents and the teachers. Teachers are being trained and paid to visit their students’ homes as one
of the best strategies to use in order to have an improved relations amongst schools and families as a method of enhancing educational achievement of the students.

Conversely, home visitation in the Philippines is taken lightly compared to other countries. It is one of the many sacrifices that teachers must do to save the students from dropping out. Teachers voluntarily seek and visit the student’s house after his classes without any protection from the government. It is a risk that teachers must face, exposed to dangers and accidents. Just like what happen to a teacher who visited the home of her student who failed to submit his Form 137, the teacher talked to the father about the possible means in order to get the said document. Unfortunately, the father had a feud with his wife that they are hiding their whereabouts, the father then said that he is willing to kill whoever will expose their whereabouts to his wife and put his gun on the table. Imagine the stress and the danger that the teacher had experienced on the visitation.

Home visit has a significant role in educational system, Department of Education may conduct a study to review the rules regarding home visitation. Aside from the dangers, teachers are using their own money for the transportation to reach the houses of the students. Teachers are appealing for the concerned agency to propose a law for home visitation.

References:

http://google.homevisitation