HUMAN RELATION SKILLS: A SIGNIFICANT TRAIT FOR A SCHOOL MANAGER

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“No man is an island” is an adage lifted from the poem entitled Meditation XVIII written by John Doe, an English poet. He cited that no man is an island entire of himself. Every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. This quotation aptly describes a very significant trait that should be possessed by a school manager; that is, human relation. According to the gist of the poem, no man can live alone, he needs a companion. It tells the readers that the most precious resources are the people that make up the world and affect one’s existence.

Almost all management writers both in education and in business tell us that human relation is what counts most in an organization. The progress and strength of a nation lie primarily on its citizen. When people value people, the results are security, happiness and peace. There is strife when human relationship is weak. There is unhappiness when the aspect is not given importance, and there is moral degeneration when people are relegated to authority and power. Tapalla (1998).

On the other hand, Marx (2006), notes that many leaders are good in answering or explaining the 4W’s and 1 H: the What, When, Where and How, but often poor on the “Why.” These questions when answered or explained are a good and proper venue for smooth communication and human relation.

We cannot mention human relation without mentioning communication and interaction. According to authorities, communication is the most important skill in life. We spend most of our waking hours communicating. If a school administrator wants to communicate effectively to influence his/her subordinates, first of all he/she must see to it that his/her people understand him/her. And to do this, is to show true and authentic and sincere examples of his/her character, his actual conduct. The teachers and other
school staff must see and feel that the school manager’s conduct and examples flow naturally from his/her character, or the kind of person they truly see and feel-- not what others say he is or what to think you are. It is evident in how they actually experience you.

According to Fajardo (2000), human relation skills refer to the way a person interacts and communicates with others. It is the ability to work effectively with people. As a school manager, it deals on how to interact well with subordinates and other people. With this skill, a school manager can easily motivate his people and move towards the direction of the goals of the organization.

School managers, teachers and other staff must carry in their hearts what Proverb 13: 20 and Proverb 18: 24 say which are related to human relationship: “He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the fools will be destroyed.” “And a man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”

References: