LAC SESSIONS: HOW DO WE PREPARE FOR IT?

by:
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How many times have you attended a school LAC Session and do nothing except fidget with your cellular phone all the time? Time seems too slow to wait for the adjourn of the sessions and it gets boring as time passes by.

Learning Action Cell (LAC) Sessions involves a group of teachers who engage in collaborative learning sessions to solve shared challenges encountered in the school spearheaded by the school head or a designated LAC Leader. LACs will turn out to be the school-based communities of practice that are positive, caring, and safe spaces. (DepEd Order No. 35, s. 2016)

How can we ensure that LAC Sessions will turn out positive results from both the teachers and the facilitators? Hartman (2014), a senior lecturer in managerial communication at MIT Sloan School of Management, suggested some steps in managing a stress-free and effective school meeting.

First, the objectives of the LAC Sessions should be clear in the first place. When the memo for the LAC Sessions is posted in the bulletin boards, the objectives to be accomplished at the end of the sessions should be provided. In that case, the teachers will be prepared on what to do during the meeting.

Second, LAC Sessions should stick to the schedule and plan. Creating an agenda that includes everything that must be covered in the meeting, along with a timeline that allocate the number of minutes for each agenda helps keep the teachers focused on the topics being discussed.
Then, sessions should start and end promptly. Time is very valuable and teachers would not want it to be wasted for sessions that do not start and end on time. We must understand that people would not want their time to be wasted and they will be truly engaged in a meeting that is punctual.

Another, technology should be banned inside the meeting room. Students are not the only ones who engage in texting, emailing, surfing the net or playing on idle moments in the classroom, even teachers themselves love to fiddle with their gadgets when bored. So, for the teachers to stay focused on the meeting, technology should be forbidden inside the meeting area except for emergency cases only.

LAC Sessions can be truly valuable and productive especially for the teachers since this will enable teachers to do collaborative planning, problem solving, and action implementation that will lead to improved teachers’ knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will consequently and significantly improve student learning and development.

References:
