MAKING THE SUMMER BREAK PRODUCTIVE

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One aspect school employees enjoy that the rest of the work force in the government sectors do not is the summer vacation. Whenever the summer comes in, students go out of school. This is the time when teachers and administrators as well enjoy an environment where the school grounds become quiet because students are out.

Normally, during these times, classroom teachers are free from school works while administrators are required to continuously report at school. But it is undeniably true that the work load is very much lighter as compared to the June – March activities. One might ask how come the education sector enjoys such privilege. One possible reason is that in handling the humdrum of student activities (lesson plans, student problems, grade computations, exams and the likes) in a span of 10 months, teachers have the tendency to get burned out or tire out. Multiple tasks in the classroom plus the ever changing landscapes of the education sector become a heavy weight to carry for our dear school personnel. In the hopes of providing quality education, teachers and administrators engage in activities to change the classroom set up and management ever so often to adjust to the changing needs of the students. School staff stays longer hours to do other tasks so as to make sure that the next day would run smoothly. (Belli 2016)

Having this scenario at hand, it is best for teachers to have a sort of break to unwind and recharge so as to be energized once more for the in coming school year.

Administrators on the other hand, stay reporting to school even on the summer vacation season. There are instances that clientele visit the school to secure records and inquire about school program offerings. But these do not happen very often. So how can...
the administrators make the summer stay in school more productive? Instead of staying inside the office and enjoy the air-conditioned rooms doing nothing, the administrators may use the time to plan out for the next school year and see what can be improved as based from the school’s past performance. There are several tasks that can be incorporated while waiting for the next school year to open. The following were suggested by William Sprankles as posted in Edutopia.

Reorganizing past school activities and improving them would be a great suggestion during the summer break. Having school activities evaluated, there is now basis for improvement so as to avoid concerns and problem for the next year to come. Innovating strategies in providing technical assistance to low performing teachers is another factor that can be taken care of. Take some time off and relax so as to give your aching back muscles a chance to breathe. A few days away from school can be very helpful in refueling your passion for supporting the school staff. If a great summer get away vacation is not possible then a simple overnight staycation in a resort or a hotel or even a short lunch or dinner at a fancy restaurant or coffee shop is enough to take your school wearies away. Connecting with stakeholders is another good venture during the summer break. Since there is not much concerns needed to be attended at school, the administrators may take this opportunity to visit the community and strengthen the bond. Stakeholders appreciate the effort of school personnel visiting them personally and reciprocate the effort through generosity towards school activities. (Sprankles, 2017)

In summary, reflecting, innovating and planning during the summer break can prove to be extra beneficial for school employees rather than just wasting time watching movie marathons or sleeping all day. Though summer breaks are intended for “breaks” meaning a break from the hustle and bustle of the academic world but then again balancing out the time for ‘recharge’ and the time for ‘focus’ provide great gains.
References:
