PARENT TEACHER INVOLVEMENT: ENHANCING STUDENT’S PERFORMANCE AT SCHOOL

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One of the challenges that teachers and school administrators are facing when it comes to school reform is the parent involvement. It is no doubt that parents become the significant factor in child’s success in learning. Education and lifelong learning begin at home where parents are considered to be the first teachers of their children. However, when the child explores the bigger world of learning and education, parents seem to lose the connection between the child and the educational guidance required to continuously ensure that their children learn in an environment where support is abundant. Nowadays, the duties to guide the students outside their homes were vested on the educators tagged as the second parents of the students at the school. While the claim is correct, it is much better if the biological parents and the second parents take initiative to establish a strong relationship all for the enhancement of student’s performance on the academic stage.

The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Movement (2014) states that successful parent involvement can be defined as the active, ongoing participation of a parent or primary caregiver in the education of his or her child. Parents can help demonstrate involvement at home by reading with their children, helping with homework, and discussing school events or at school, by attending functions or volunteering in classrooms. Schools with active parents help those parents be engaged in different school activities, converse with them regularly and give them the opportunity to be involved in the learning process, this way parents are nurturing children’s education that may enhance their drive to learn.

In a recent study conducted by CCSRM, students with parents who are actively involved in their school activities are those students who excel academically. Reasons
such as students feel more confident knowing that their parents extend their support to them in school, and students feel that they are undergoing a more personalized way of learning with the close involvement of their parents and their teachers. With the strong relationship that they aim to establish the school and the parents, the successful parent-teacher partnership is at hand.

Teachers are at the heart of this educational reform. Actively involving the parents in most of the school activities will facilitate a positive learning environment for the students thus promoting family values which are typical of the Filipino culture.

Parents are the most important, influential and inspiring partner in a child's education and schools can reap large dividends by capitalizing on their support. As an assurance, such relationships need the full effort and support of both educators and parents.