PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL

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High School students, as adolescent, have experienced many physical, emotional, social and cognitive changes. At the same time, the increase in the academic demands and complexity of the high school structure make schooling for them more difficult.

As children progress through school, parents’ involvements decline drastically, several factors may associated with this declining rate such as complexity of high school curricula that can be intimidating to parents, peer pressure, economic condition of the families and the students’ desire to be independent.

It is common knowledge that education starts at home and it is a base line where education of the young is perceived wherein the parents are the first teacher. The family provides the first educational experience of the child and the home is his very first school.

On the study of Haley and Berry (2005) they claimed that home and school are partners wherein parents and family are critical factors in the children’s education, particularly for those who are at risk of dropping out of school. Numerous studies demonstrate that the influence and support given by the family may directly affect the behavior of children in school, their grades and the probability that they will finish high school.

Furthermore, Zara (2005) conveyed that effective teachers recognize the crucial role of parents in the lives of their students and actively seek and implement ways to reach out to them. They know that the parents are the most influential adults in their children lives and recognize that the frequency of communication between students and
parents is important whether as children stay or drop out from the school. Students who are most likely to drop out are those whom parents never discuss school’s affairs.

Here are the tips on how to reinforce parental involvement in school:

1. Parents should not view parental support as sole task of female parents; it should be a collaborative effort of both parents to assist their children’s academic progress.

2. Parents should participate in the different programs of the school of their children especially during PTA meeting and issuance of report card so that they will become fully aware on the academic progress of their children.

3. Parents must continuously serve as stewards of their children not only on the personal needs but equally support them on the academic and school program of their children, as all of these affect their children’s academic progress.

4. School administrator, teacher and guidance counselor should establish active linkages between parents and school personnel by involving them in the different school activities, inviting them to attend Parenting session and give them constant appreciation that they are part of school.

Teachers alone could not do everything. They need partners in educating the young. The involvements and support of the parents have appositive impacts on their academic progress.
References:

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