PARENTS' INVOLVEMENT ON STUDENTS' LEARNING

by:

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There is set thinking that teachers are usually the ones responsible for students’ learning. This is the norm of society. People expect educators to take care of students’ welfare especially in children’s learning. Parents usually leave it all to the school and the educators. They think that if they pay for their children’s education, or in cases of public school, send their children to the institution, all the efforts for learning should come from the school alone. Some parents, if not most, do not check on their children’s progress or participate in school programs or events.

However, today, more parents are beginning to become involved in their children’s education. There is a new realization among parents that their involvement causes a positive impact on their children’s learning. The parents’ involvements generally include the parents’ and significant others’ investing their time, efforts, and resources to their children’s education. These efforts and investments can take place inside or outside the school with the intention to improve children’s learning. These are even supported by researches and mostly are well-documented.

There are consistent and positive impacts of combined involvements of school administrators, teachers, and family members to students’ education. These impacts include improved school attendance, lowered drop-out rate, higher school performance levels, an increase in academic achievements.

Some concrete ways on how family members can get involved vary from the simple home-based activities like assisting with homework, discussing together the day’s lessons, and helping in improving school projects to the more challenging school-based activities such as attending school events or volunteering at school programs and undertakings. Attending the parent-teacher conference definitely contributes to a positive impact on the children’s school performance and learning. Children who have their parents present...
during meetings feel proud and encouraged. It is very important to them seeing their parents giving time and importance to what is valuable to them at this stage of their life.

No matter how good the effect of parents’ participation in students’ learning is, there can also be some obstacles. These hindrances may include poor teacher-parent relationship, parents’ attitude, and insufficient family resources. The parent-teacher relationship can be bridged by providing teachers with proper training on relational and communication skills. School administrators must encourage a collaborative environment and motivate active parent involvement. Programs and activities that include the parents can also help such as family day and sports events. Livelihood projects can also be initiated to offer earning opportunities to underprivileged families to help augment their income.

Amidst these conflicts and hindrances, it is evident that when the learning institution reach out, understand, and seek the help of the parents and other family members, there will eventually be pleasant students’ learning experiences and successes.

References:

