SCHOOL - COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP: BONDS FOR GREATER BENEFITS

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School exists to make the community better in forthcoming years but schools nowadays can served best when supported well by the community. A set of partnership between the school and other community resources brings strong bonds that resulted to shared responsibilities and profits.

The ACCESs framework of the Department of Education, (A Child and Community Centered Educational System) strengthens the practice of School-Based Management. Its collaborative focus particularly on academics, extra-curricular activities, health and social relations, school and community development and community engagement leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities. Through the SBM, decentralization of decision-making was transferred from central level down to the school sites, with the intent of uniting school heads, teachers, students as well as parents, local government units and the community at large in promoting welfare of schools and the learners. Through this, community linkages was given greater accountability and importance. (in Slideshare, 2013)

Community schools offer a personalized program that emphasizes real-world learning and community problem solving through locally contextualized lessons. They modify the standard curriculum in the context adapted within the community. Schools become centers of the community and are open to all school-community clienteles. They implements different programs and activities mandated by the department but conceptualization of all of these is possible through the assistance, involvement and provision of the community particularly the parents and the local government unit officials.
By means of public schools as centers, community-schools bring together many partners to offer a range of supports and opportunities to learners, families and communities. Internal and external stakeholders as partners work to achieve diversity of results.

Community mainly consist of families that form the simplest unit of the society. From these families evolved the supportive parents that make sure their children are ready to enter school, attend school consistently, actively involved in learning and become better citizens of the community. Parents are increasingly involved with their children's education as schools are take initiatives to engage with families and communities. Hence, pupils succeed academically, become healthy and developed physically, socially, and emotionally.

The community headed by the local government officials and the parents as the front liners work hand in hand with the school in order to provide students a safe, supportive, and stable environment, and make communities a desirable place to live. Thus, classroom teachers led by the school head should reach out to the people in the community to ensure strategic partnership primarily for the benefit of the schoolchildren. Through the mutual responsibility, support and appreciation, nothing is impossible to achieve.

References: