THE ESSENCE OF COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

by:

Maria Cecilia D. Flores
Head Teacher III, Balsik National High School

“"A child is like a butterfly in the wind, some can fly higher than others, but each one flies the best it can.” Every learner is different. Every one is special and beautiful. And no one is needed to compare with. Right in education, it is planned according to the needs in the future. It is today in a modern world of teaching. Definitely, the future won't be the same as today and that is why collaborative learning is the major aspect that produces well trained knowledgeable and skilled individual based on various projects.

Collaborative learning is an umbrella term for a variety of approaches in education that involve joint intellectual effort by teachers and students. It is a method and environments in which learners individually engage in a common task where in every one is accountable to each other.

Collaborative learning is an educational approaches encompassing joint scholarly effort between students, or students and teachers together. It is a teaching approach where students work in groups so as to understand a concept, create a product or solve a problem. It also trains the students to share, express and evaluate their ideas and monitor their work together, where in each and everyone is responsible and accountable to each other, so a sense of responsibility and accountability is being develop among of the in an early age.

Collaboration of learning among teachers and students will create an environment wherein both of them could perform well and express their ideas for better and fruitful results.

The following collaborative learning activities create opportunities for students to:
Engage in subject specific discussions with peers

Learn to work and support cooperatively

Effectively develop teamwork and communication in both interpersonal and cross cultural awareness skills

To take in and fully understand the various views in deepening knowledge and promoting critical thinking

Foster individual accountability to the team

Develop independent learning strategies

Structure out-of-class learning

Mitigate learner isolation

Collaborative learning is an active, constructive processes, it takes on a variety of forms and is practiced by teachers of different disciplinary backgrounds and teaching traditions. Learning new information, ideas or skills motivate the students to work actively within purposeful ways. The activities immerse students in challenging tasks or questions. Comparatively in the beginning with facts and ideas, followed to applications, the collaborative learning activities usually started with problems, for which students gather together those pertinent facts and ideas. Students immediately apply or practice their acquired knowledge from their teachers, mentors instead of being an observer of questions and answer or the problem and solution method. In application, the students develop their higher order of reasoning, critical thinking and their skills in solving problems.
In the end collaborative learning not only enhances the learning process but also makes students happy. Where everyone meets the defined goals and no learners will be left behind.

References:
https://www.eztalks.com/online-education/what-is-collaborative-learning.html