UNDERSTANDING THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM

by:
Brian B. Santiago
Teacher Applicant

It is hard to make some students do the tasks that we give them. As teachers, we know that it is the choice of our students whether they will do those things for them to learn or the other way around. However, it is our duty to do all we can to answer their questions and help them resolve their concerns.

Most of the time, our students’ concerns are like an iceberg. There is only a small part of it that can be seen on the above surface. The like concerns are not easy to resolve since we cannot see the whole problem. Because of this, we need to be more observant and careful in dealing with these young people. Because we are teachers, we have to know our students. When we know them better, we will distinguish what is best for them. We can even help them resolve the entire concern, or the complete iceberg).

Asking questions and listening are very important in helping our students resolve their school problems. We should rely on our feelings when trying to solve these issues. For example, you might share your personal experiences to address a concern about their personal lives, or you might share other’s experiences as well.

Often concerns are more social than academic. For instance, our students might be experiencing bullying or rejection among his classmates. Or they might have a problem in the home. Whatever these problems are, there may be times when our students’ past experience is part of the concern that we do not understand. In these cases, it may be helpful to find someone with the same experience to help you understand that problem.
The way we treat our students’ concern depends on the nature of that problem. We should determine whether the concern is because of outside forces or because the individual himself got issues. Understanding the root of the problem is the best way to help our students resolve their concerns.

As teachers, we not only teach but we also inspire people. It is our sole obligation to help our students become a better person by helping them face life’s challenges.

References: