

## SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY: PARTNERS IN LEARNING

*by:*

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The face of education has changed because of the pandemic COVID-19 from now to years to come. But one of the things stays constant. There should always be a strong spirit of cooperation in the involvement of teachers in the community.

In this time of the pandemic, education is changing every moment and putting more pressure on teachers to know that quality education can be given with the help of the community. Schools cannot do this alone. This is where partnerships between school and community leaders go. All successful schools know the importance of establishing better and more peaceful relations with the community.

For this reason, to enhance the community's participation, it is vital to encourage community members and have them feel welcomed, trusted, and needed. They should also be respected and heard. Of course, it lies in the school head's charisma and effort.

Clearly, the head of the school must set off the participation of community members in school and maintain a good relationship with them aside from leadership skills and interpersonal qualities. Therefore, the school head's eagerness to open the school to the community and involve it in management is indispensable. The school head needs to encourage the community to participate in school by spending more time and effort. In addition, the school head must inform and share the vision and plans of the school with community members, listen to their different perspectives, and encourage them to collaborate in school.

We can never deny that the benefits of community and school partnerships are numerous at this time of the pandemic. At the very start of the pandemic school year, the support and trust of the community matter most.

Moreover, the usual parent involvement practices such as monitoring children's homework, reading to them, and volunteering in schools are linked to students' positive results in learning and attitude. There are a lot of activities in schools that can promote school-community partnerships. Schools need a good collaboration with their local community to achieve their goals. Strong school-community partnerships are built on open dialogue and communication for trust and support.

Indeed, whenever we are talking about a good and long-lasting relationship or partnership, it should be between the school and the community. A relationship should be full of trust and support for each other. The linkages between these two institutions are a proven and effective way for schools to stretch what they can render to learners. It also conveys more significant learning experiences that mean a lot in the lives of children, families, and communities. School and community linkages is a *comme il faut*. As it needs to no matter what.

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