

MAKING CONNECTIONS IN A PANDEMIC-AFFECTED SCHOOL YEAR

by:

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For this school year 2022-2023, the pupils will be back in school for an in-person learning. There are so many concerns such as how not to get sick, how to cope with learning lapses, how to facilitate learning during the challenges of the pandemic, among others. As a teacher, one of the best solutions to address the concerns based on previous events is make and build strong connections.

Building strong connections at a time like this can help us get through the many rough patches the past years scarred us with. The learning gaps abound, and the teachers alone can only do so much to help the pupils cope with the gaps. Connecting with the family, community, and stakeholders can assist in the delivery of quality education. As the saying goes, it takes a village to educate a child. This can never be truer than today.

Consistent communication with the stakeholders and planning programs and activities with them are great starters. Parents' orientation and meetings, livelihood activities, clean and green drives, health and wellness projects are just some of the many things the school can do with the parents. Other initiatives in which the entire community can take part of should be welcomed and discussed with the school administration and the teaching personnel.

In the Learning Recovery Plan of the school, it is vital to include how stakeholders and the entire community can take active roles in helping the school recover from the problems that arose during the height of the pandemic. It is important to note that the

beside the child's academic concerns, his wholeness is to be carefully considered if recovery and quality are the goals.

This year will not be an easy school year, it will definitely not be like the previous "normal" school we have had, but with the strong determination, resiliency, and positive connections, we may be able to save our students from the learning gaps the pandemic brought and get them equipped as truly educated people for their better future.

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