

ENHANCING PARENT-TEACHER COLLABORATION

by:

Corazon C. Dela Cruz

Teacher III, Capunitan Elementary School

Parents and teachers both want what is best for their learners/children. That's why parent/teacher collaboration is so important. Working together, parents and teachers can provide the best learning environment for students at home and at school.

Collaboration is the most effective way to improve parent-teacher collaboration strategies. One of the most important things you can do to promote student learning is to stay in touch and to facilitate student learning

Collaboration isn't something that happens once a quarter. It is critical for parents and teachers to communicate thoughts and concerns about the student and stay on the same page regarding their learning on a regular basis. Regular communication, even if it is as simple as a sentence or two every week, is one of the most effective strategies for promoting student learning.

Collaboration between parents and teachers is an essential component of a child's education. When a student's family communicates with their child's teacher, the two parties can collaborate to establish a connection and develop an optimal environment for learning both at school and home. Moreover, they can commiserate on the student's strengths and weaknesses, devise a strategy to strengthen those weaknesses, identify which factors may be amplifying or hindering the student's learning capabilities, and form a unified support system to assist the student in becoming their best academic self.

For example, if a student is struggling in math but hasn't necessarily told their family, the family may learn about it from the teacher – and from there, the two can collaborate to create a solution.

This can include more one-on-one time with the teacher, the family completing projects at home to supplement the student's in-school lessons, or even hiring a tutor.

If, on the other hand, a student is having difficulty in school due to family issues, the family can notify the teacher. If that information is not shared, the teacher can ask the family if anything at home is causing the child problems. The teacher and family can communicate about the problem and devise a plan to help the student thrive during a difficult time if they have trust and a good relationship.

There are lots of advantages to parent-teacher collaboration, but some of the most important advantages are as follows:

Developing a positive relationship with the student and their family.

Creating open lines of communication that support the academic pursuits of the student

Making the learning environment more welcoming for the student.

Learning more about the student and how they learn.

Developing an understanding between the teacher and the student's parents, ensuring that everyone is on the same page about the student's goals and abilities.

Keeping parents informed of their child's academic and social progress.

By laying a solid foundation of positive interactions, strong communication, and truly meaningful interactions through collaboration, we will ensure our children's success for many years to come.

References:

Parent-Teacher Relationships and the Effect on Student Success (nwcsiowa.edu)

Harnessing Parent Teacher Collaboration (wgu.edu)

The Benefit of Parents and Teachers Working Together (verywellfamily.com)