

STRENGTHENING EDUCATION THROUGH PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

by:

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Parents, along with students, educators, and school leaders, are vital partners in the effective execution of the curriculum. Although they may not be directly involved in the specific technical details of curriculum delivery, their involvement and support are critical to achieving educational objectives.

The involvement of parents as stakeholders greatly enhances the curriculum implementation process. Typically, the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) serves as a key force behind initiatives that support the school, contributing to both academic programs and extracurricular activities. Community members are also important, as they provide materials, resources, and even share local and indigenous knowledge that enriches the learning experience in the classroom. Some contribute by donating books, equipment, or facilities that schools might otherwise be without.

Effective parental engagement has a positive impact on student achievement. Establishing harmonious relationships between parents, teachers, and administrators promotes better communication, enhances student motivation, minimizes disciplinary issues, and fosters greater responsibility for learning. Many schools that once struggled to thrive succeeded through the unwavering support of PTAs, whose members take pride in contributing directly to their children's educational experience.

Rather than focusing on disagreements with school administrators, faculty, or staff, parents are encouraged to prioritize areas of collaboration that benefit their children. Parent involvement should always be built on mutual respect and open dialogue, with

PTAs working closely with school heads or designated coordinators to ensure that policies, rules, and programs serve the best interests of learners.

Moreover, PTAs should not only be called upon in times of conflict or problems. They must also be actively engaged as part of the school's governing council, helping plan and implement initiatives for school improvement. Their involvement is essential because the welfare of their children is ultimately at stake. Cooperation and shared responsibility between parents and educators foster trust, which is the cornerstone of an effective school community.

Indeed, as the proverb says, "It takes a village to raise a child." The shared responsibility of parents, teachers, and the wider community is vital in shaping not only capable learners but also responsible and productive citizens. In the Philippine setting, where education plays a crucial role in driving national progress, the active and positive participation of parents remains a cornerstone in helping schools realize their mission of nurturing the full potential of every child.

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