

# The Effects of Parental Involvement in Relation to the Academic Achievement and Activities of Learners in School

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## ABSTRACT

Parents are the primary stakeholders of the school. They served as one of the supporters and motivators of their child in the learning process. Parents might involved in the school during PTA meetings, attending conferences, giving donations on the school projects and giving full support on some activities that could be of great help to their child. Sometimes, parent's did not involve in the school because they simply may not have the time, resources, or know-how to help out". Parents often do not feel welcomed at school. They feel that what they may have to offer is unimportant and unappreciated. To solve those aforementioned, a policy of the school as well as some orientation will be implemented and discussed with clear understanding to all parents . In this manner, parents will be obliged and encouraged to attend some meetings, conferences and other activities which they are involved inside and outside the school premises. Therefore, parents involvement is very essential in whatever activities may it be in academics or co-curricular task performances in school. In fact, a parent always understand the different scenarios in the school and willing to help its projects and program if they are well-oriented on it because they have already in their mindset that it is for the good of their child. Lastly, it is very clear to note that through parental involvement in school, children's attitude and behavior also matters.

**KEYWORDS:** Parental Involvement, Academic Achievement, Activities, Education

## INTRODUCTION

Parents are the main stakeholders of the school. They served as one of the supporters and motivators of their sons/daughters in the learning process. At the most basic level, parents can begin heartening the education of their children by exhibiting that they genuinely value education themselves. Thus, it is a pre-requisite to involve parents in educational activities of the learners.

Parental involvement is a combination of dedication and active engagement on the part of the parent to the school and to the learners. Studies have shown that children whose parents and/or other significant adults share in their formal education tends to improve in school.

All parents want their children to become successful, caring adults and a good citizen in the near future. Sometimes, however, they don't know where to start, when to find the time, or how to go about making positive connections with the school.

According to Vandergrift and Greene,(1992) there are two key elements that work together to make up the concept of parental involvement. One of these is a level of commitment to parental support. This includes such things as encouraging the student, being sympathetic, reassuring, and understanding. The other element needed is a level of parental activity and participation, such as doing something that is observable. "This combination of level of commitment and active participation is what makes an involved parent"

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Parents might involved in the school during PTA meetings, attending conferences, giving donations on the school projects and giving full support on some activities in the part of the learners. These activities are scaffolding children in answering homework, helping projects in every subjects, supporting children in their studies by giving them the right education and instilling their children a positive discipline in line with the core values of Maka-Diyos, Makatao, Makakalikasan at Makabansa in the Department of Education.

## Problems

Parents failed to attend in some conferences or meetings due to conflict to their time and date scheduled in their job. In the study of McQuiggan, M. & Megra, M. (2017) It was stated that parents who do not speak English at home have lower rates of attendance at general school meetings, parent-teacher conferences, or school or class events, relative to English-speaking parents; and lower rates of volunteering or serving on a committee.

Parent's did not involve in the school because they simply may not have the time, resources, or know-how to help out". Parents often do not feel welcomed at school. They feel that what they may have to offer is unimportant and unappreciated. Also, parents may not believe that they have any knowledge that the school is interested in knowing. This is especially true when the parent may not have a great deal of education. It is also possible that the parent does not have

a great deal of interest in the school or his child's education. The parent may not feel that education is important.

In a study of Yun Mo & Kusum Singh in 2015 most parents and school staff were very positive about parental involvement but levels of involvement were mostly low. Many parents did not feel welcomed and got little information and guidance. They did not understand teaching methods in relation to play and mathematics. The school staff attributed low levels of involvement to parents not valuing such involvement and their lack of education. The study shows a significant level of misunderstanding and lack of communication between school and parents.

Single parents often do not have the time, money, or knowledge to help children with projects. For example, many mothers do not have equipment or skill to plan science fair experiments or construct woodworking projects, and fathers may not be able to help design and sew costumes for the school play.

Another reason for lack of involvement is embarrassment. The parents may be illiterate or unable to speak English. This could make communication difficult if not impossible. Another source of embarrassment is memories of the parent's failure in school. Some parents feel that they are being bullied by the superiors in the school. The parent would not have much desire to return to a place that only served to remind him of his own failures (Brink & Chandler in 2016).

Furthermore, uneducated parents, drug addicts, prolong to alcoholics, and child abusers are some of the reasons of lack of participation in school.

### Solutions

In every school, it is a must to have a parent-teacher meeting before the start of the school year. A policy of the school as well as some orientation will be discussed. In this manner, parents will be encouraged to attend some meetings, conferences and other activities which they are involved inside and outside the school premises.

If the problem is conflict to their time schedule, then the school must communicate to the parents ahead of time and informed them that those activities are important to the life of their children.

In a study of Lewis (2009), there are many things that can be done to improve parental involvement at the elementary level, but the success of any program will be tied directly to the support and encouragement of the principal. According to Duncan, "Principals are key contributors to helping parents and other educators understand each other." By the school being more aware of the circumstances of nontraditional families, better communications can be constituted. One thing that the school can do is to let the parents handle parenting responsibilities and the school handle the educational responsibilities. Also, according to the study of Wanat, it was stated that by working with the parents more, the school will have a better idea of what the parents can and cannot do. More realistic expectations for out-of-school projects is an example of this.

Another important item is communication. More communication between the school and home are needed, but specific types of communication are important. Two-way informal conversations between teacher/parent are much more effective than one-way communication from the teacher. Also, recreating a friendly contact should be established with parents early in the year before something has happened that makes it necessary for the teacher to contact the parent.

There are many ways that a school can amend communications. One way is for the school to sponsor a parent/student fund raising. Parents and students working side-by-side gives them a chance to talk, and hopefully the teachers and schools will also be included in this important exchange. Also, parent/teacher organizations can be an approach to reach parents. Parents who attend parent/teacher meetings are able to get to know their child's teachers better. Another avenue sometimes unnoticed is inviting parents to volunteer. By doing this, the school is letting them know that they are wanted, needed, and welcomed at the school. Many parents are more than willing to share their knowledge of occupations, foreign travel, special skills and hobbies. They just want to be asked. Alumni events have been shown to be an excellent way to improve parent/community involvement and a way to raise needed money.

People like to know that their input is valued. Also, the school could set up a parent center in the school stocked with resources to help parents. This is one way the school can say we care. In addition, the school could recognize what parents are doing to help the students and praise them for their efforts. People like to know that someone takes the time to notice and appreciate what they were doing.

One very important way that parents can become involved in their student's work is through the use of computers. This is a new world opening up for a lot of students as well as their parents. They can learn about this exciting world together. One thing that is necessary is to make sure the programs used are at the correct grade level and that there is a lot of variety.

There it is in a nutshell: if the parent shows concern, it will translate into greater achievement on the part of the student. The more that the parent becomes involved with the teacher, school curriculum, and administration, the better the parent feels about the school. The parent will have an increased sense of pride in the school and the community. The more the parent learns about the way the school functions, the more the parent will understand the educational process and educational decisions. The parents and the school become allies and are able to be of mutual benefit when it comes to dealing with difficult students and situations.

### Findings

It is very clear to note that through parental involvement in school, children's attitude also matters.

In the study of Shoshana Ben Tov and Shlomo Romi (2018) about the relationships between parents involvements as related to their alertness to school found out that educational staff and parents must create useful

communication channels for helping children cope with the challenges of their social and media world.

In the study of Evanthia N. Patrikakou & Roger P. Weissberg (2008) the more parents perceived their child's teacher as valuing their contribution to their child's education, trying to keep them informed about their child's strengths and weaknesses, and providing them with specific suggestions to help their child, the higher the parents' involvement was both at home and at school.

In the study of Shoshana Ben Tov and Shlomo Romi (2018) about the relationships between parents involvements as related to their alertness to school found out that educational staff and parents must create useful communication channels for helping children cope with the challenges of their social and media world.

### Conclusion

Therefore, parents involvement is very essential in whatever activities may it be in academics or co-curricular task performances in school. A parent always understand the different scenarios in the school and willing to help its projects and program if they are well-oriented on it because they have already in their mindset that it is for the good of their children. Anything that the parent can do to help the student improve is worth doing.

Genuinely, parents involvement can benefit the student and it can also benefit the teachers, the school, the parents themselves, and the community, as well as other children in the family. Everything possible should be done by the school system to encourage the parents to become involved. This is especially true of the principal of the school. He or she is the driving force of the school, and it is his or her leadership that will guide the teachers in the direction of emphasizing the importance of parental involvement.

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