Assignment #2: Parent and Student Relations

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An educator has to understand many different things in order to be successful within the education system. One of the things that an educator needs to understand is the role that both students and parents play within the education community. Understanding the role of parents and students can allow an educator to implement and support strategies to get both students and parents engaged within the school community. Putting strategies in place to engage students and parents within the school community can lead to higher academic results for the students. Anything that can be done that can help lead to more student success needs to be looked at and understood very clearly.

One of the important parts of the school community is the parents of the students. The parents play a large role within the school community and can have a large impact on students. Parents who are more involved within the school community tend to have their child do better and have better academic results (Đurišić & Bunijevac, 2017). Another role that parents play in education is that their views can be rubbed off on their students, which can influence their academic performance either positively or negatively. If a parent is talking negatively about education or saying that it is not worthwhile, then it can lead the child of the parent to have the same view (Huat See & Gorard, 2015). Parents who spoke negatively about school tend to have students who have a lower academic success rate or achievement within the school setting (Huat See & Gorard, 2015). Conversely, parents who spoke about the importance of school and why it is needed by the students tend to have students who will have a better outlook on school and have higher academic success rates (Huat See & Gorard, 2015). In other words, a parent who is being negative about school or the school work of a student can have a major impact on a student’s academic success rates. If a student thinks school is not important, then it could lead them to not want to try to do well and just look at school as unnecessary and a waste of time. A parent can show a child that school is important by working with them on their school work at home and helping them better understand the material that is being taught to them (Đurišić & Bunijevac, 2017). This type of behavior can cause students to think that school is important if their parent is willing to work with them on it at home. The role that parents play in the education system is huge. If a parent is involved in some way with the student, then it can cause students to look at education as being very important because their parent or parents are very involved with their education and even the school.

Recognizing the roles that parents can play in the school community and their impact on students’ success, it is important to understand the strategies that can be used in order to engage the parents. One of the most important strategies that needs to be used to get parents involved within the school community is open and clear communication from the school as a whole (Berkant, Oz, & Atilgan, 2019). If parents are not informed or kept in the know of what is needed of them, then it can cause parents to think that they might not be needed or that everything is going well with the students at the school. However, if parents have clear communication between the school and themselves, it can lead to more involvement by the parents. The reason is parents will know when events are taking place, what is needed by the school, or if a teacher is needing help with a project that is being carried out (Berkant, Oz, & Atilgan, 2019). If the communication is not there, then it will cause parents to not be involved within the school community. Another strategy that has been found to lead to getting parents involved within the school community is ensuring that parents feel a need to be involved (Park & Holloway, 2018). If a parent feels like they are needed within the school, they are more likely to get involved and help out within the school setting (Park & Holloway, 2018). Another strategy that needs to be put into place within the school community is ensuring that parents feel welcome when they come to the school (Park & Holloway, 2018). If a parents feels welcome at the school, they are more likely to come in and volunteer to help out. However, if a parent feels like they are not welcome or feel like the faculty or staff is being rude, then they are more likely to not want to get involved because they will not feel like they are wanted in the school setting (Park & Holloway, 2018).

An educator also needs to understand the role that students play within the school setting. An educator needs to understand that a student’s role within the education system is one of being a consumer, contributor, and collaborator within the school community. The most important role for a student within the education system is that of a consumer or learner and learning what is being taught to them. By understanding the roles that students play, an educator can also understand what a student can do in the roles that they play within the education setting. Students can have many roles such as pointing out problems that other students are facing each day and even suggesting possible solutions to address the problems (Schachter, 2010). Students are the ones who can easily see what is truly impacting other students before teachers can. As a result, teachers need to work with students in order to better understand any sort of problems that may be taking place. Doing this can allow teachers to be able to address problems that might be facing students.

There are some strategies that educators can put into place in order to get more engagement from students. One strategy that can be put into place that will lead to more engagement amongst students is by giving them more power (Schachter, 2010). Students who feel like they have more of a say in the school and even the classroom operation tend to have higher academic success rates (Cochran, Reinsvold, & Hess, 2017). There are a few different ways that power can be given to students in order to increase engagement. One method a teacher can use is by creating lessons for students that allow them to make a decision or guide the direction in which the lesson will go, which will help students feel like they have more say in their individual education (Cochran, Reinsvold, & Hess, 2017). Allowing the students to pick the direction of the lesson or the work will more than likely cause students to work harder and in turn increase their academic success rates in the class and the school overall. Allowing students to have more say and to contribute to the school and their classroom can help lead to more buy-in from the students. Another advantage to giving students more power within the classroom and the school is it can lead students to have a better rapport with the teachers who are involved. The reason for this improved rapport is because the students will more than likely feel like they are being respected and in turn will have a better working relationship with the teachers in question. Another strategy that can be used to help build student engagement within the school community is including more students in the decision making process within the school (Stone & Surmitis, 2018). This strategy gives students more say in what is taking place within the school as a whole and as a result can help lead to more involvement of the students. Students who are more involved within the school as a whole tend to be more engaged, have higher academic success rates, and even have more respect for the teachers and staff within the school setting (Wennergren & Blossing, 2017).

There are many things that an educator needs to have a clear understanding of in order to be successful. If an educator does not understand the roles that both parents and students play within the education system, then it is highly possible that the educator will not be doing everything possible to be setting the students up for success. However, understanding the roles that students and parents play within the education system can allow an educator to put strategies in place that can help engage both students and parents within the school community. Carrying out behavior that can engage both students and parents can lead to more success for the students involved within the education setting.

**References**

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