



COMMUNITY RAPPORT FOR UNIVERSALIZATION OF QUALITY PRIMARY EDUCATION

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Abstract:

Education is change in behavior. We get experiences at home, in the society and through social interactions and healthy social relationships. These shape human behavior along the direction desired. It is necessary to study the nature of society to understand the factors, institutions and forces which influence the behavior of an individual. In short a teacher should be both a philosopher and a sociologist.

INTRODUCTION:

Community Rapport is the ability to secure the co-operation and participation of the community by crating awareness, affinity and a feeling or responsibility in the community for the all-round development of the school. The school is a social institution .Its function is to impart education for the all-round development of children. Expectations and aspirations of the society are fulfilled through the school. Various schemes are being implemented by the Government from time to time to improve the quality of education. Schools also organize many activities. However an unattractive school atmosphere, inadequate educational aide, irregular attendance of pupils, insufficient physical facilities, scarcity of sports equipment etc., hamper the desired progress of the school and the all-round development of pupils. It is therefore essential to provide all the essential infrastructure and facilities necessary for the development of the school with the co-operation of the community. Unless there is a sense of ownership in the community it will not share the responsibility for the development of the school.

Efforts made by the Government will be fruitful only with the willing support of society. Hence it is necessary to develop awareness in society regarding the objectives of education, and a feeling, co-operation, participation and responsibility in helping achieve the objectives. To achieve the community's support, the school should always try to strengthen its rapport with the community. By gathering information about the community, its people customs, traditions, culture, festivals, information about the community, its people, customs, traditions, culture , festivals, and by maxing with the community whenever possible, the school can bring the community close, The school should also undertake activities which are useful to society. The co-operation of the society in turn will be valuable to the school in acquiring essential facilities and in performing the educational tasks successfully.

The progress of the school and the community are mutually dependant. They are also supplementary to each other. School Management Committees are established as a connecting link between the school and society. These committees are very important and powerful media for involving the community in the development of the school.

Components of Community Rapport :-

ENROLMENT:-

The enrolment of all children, especially children of weaker and deprived sections such as boys

Title :COMMUNITY RAPPORT FOR UNIVERSALIZATION OF QUALITY PRIMARY EDUCATION
Source:Golden Research Thoughts [2231-5063] MENDHEKAR DATTATRYA PARSHURAM yr:2013 vol:2 iss:7.

and girls of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Vimkut Jatis from the catchment area of a school should be ensured. Firstly a General meeting of the villagers should be arranged with the help of school management committee. Special efforts should be made to ensure larger participation of women and youth from the village. The importance of primary education, especially the education of girls should be emphasized in the meeting. In addition, the nature of the enrolment drive should be explained. An appeal should be made to the community for getting the spontaneous and whole hearted participation and Co-operation of villagers, Suggestion made by the villager for an effective enrolment drive should be respected.

The school teachers should undertake a survey of children in the age group 6 to 9 years through door-to-door visits with the co-operation of SMC members.

The enrolment of all the boys and girls listed in the survey report should be completed before the opening day of the school keeping in mind that a task Well begun is half done' An enrolment festival should be celebrated to welcome children to the school on the very first day. The senior pupils should welcome the new entrants by offering them flowers By decorating the school and distributing sweets to all children, a joyful atmosphere should be created. All young and old, males and females from the village should participate in the festival. Especially the parents of the new comers should attend the festival. A feeling of closeness and respect for the school and teachers will be developed in them after witnessing how their children are welcomed, loved, and treated nicely on the very first day of school. Children too, will be attracted to the school as a result of the above measures.

1.Attendance :-

It is necessary that teachers, parents and the community should make joint efforts to ensure that all new-comers attend school every day, come on time, remain present both physically and mentally during school hours, and view the school with the same enthusiasm as on the first day of school. A review of attendance by pupils should be taken rigorously in every monthly meeting of the school management Committee. A list of pupils who are frequently or continuously absent in school should be prepared. A meeting of parents of such pupils should be arranged with the members of SMC to persuade them to send their children regularly to school. During such meetings conscious efforts should be made to understand the difficulties of parents and help them to solve their difficulties through SMC members. The information about various incentives given by the Government should also be given to needy parents. Such joint endeavors will guarantee the regular attendance of children in school.

2.Co-Operation and Participation of the Community in improving the Quality of Education :-

The school is an institution which is instrumental in the progress of society. The involvement of the village is crucial for the development of the school. Villages have immense human resources. There are retired people from various fields such as Education, Agriculture, etc. In addition, there are local experts like Health Officers, Military personnel, Technicians, Artists, etc. Their experience, knowledge and services can be utilized for the development of the school and for imparting "Quality /Education" Activities like starting a Study Room for pupils in a village, Reading Room, Hobby Centres, Cultural Classes, etc., could be undertaken with their initiative. In addition to this direct form of accomplishment. The hidden potential of the village should be skillfully utilized for the all-round development of children.

3.Availability of Physical Facilities :-

The contribution of the community will be useful for providing facilities like school buildings, play-grounds, compound wall, toilets (especially for girls) school garden tools and materials, furniture, water storage tank, sports equipment, Educational aids, musical instruments, etc. The school will be greatly strengthened by the addition of a sound infrastructure.

4.Participation of the Community in School Management :-

It is essential to secure the participation and co-operation of the community in the planning of educational programmes, their implementation, and evaluation. Co-operation of SMC should also be sought for meeting the short-term and long-term physical and academic needs of the school and in planning activities like development of surroundings, sports competitions, educational trips, cultural programmes, annual gathering etc.

Functions of SMCs :

The SMCs are responsible for the planning, implementation, and monitoring of various schemes in the area of early childhood education and adult education. The main functions of the SMC as mentioned in the Programme of Action of Maharashtra Stage are as follows.

1. Set annual targets for enrolment, attendance, and retention of children.
2. Persuade parents to send girls to school.
3. Supervise the regular attendance of Headmaster in school.
4. Supervise the regular attendance of teachers in school.
5. Ensure that the educational atmosphere in school is conducive to learning and all-round development.
6. See that educational aids (e.g. radio, tape-recorder, material supplied under Operation Black Board) are regularly and properly used by the teachers.
7. Make efforts to provide essential physical facilities (water storage tank, clock, bell) for the school through community participation.
8. Distribute attendance allowance, school uniforms, text books, etc.
9. Utilize provisions available through the School Improvement Scheme for the purchase of educational aids.

USEFUL ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY :-

The development of the school is brought about by the spontaneous co-operation and participation of the community. In return the school can do a lot for the community through a number of activities. This will help the community to come closer to the school and also help the school in reaching out to the community. As a result the community starts to identify with the school and the school begins to consider the community as its partner

1. Undertake plantation and conservation of trees.
2. Ensure cleanliness of class rooms, school premises, roads, public places, etc.
3. Help needy pupils to get school uniforms, writing materials, medical help, etc.
4. Educate illiterate adults.
5. Serve and help the handicapped and the infirm (Men, women, children) and orphans. Provide them emotional support to make them happy.
6. Make people understand the importance of personal hygiene and public health, healthy habits balanced and nutritious food, sports, entertainment, etc.
7. Raise funds for helping parsons and society at the time of calamities.
8. Provide academic guidance to under- achieving pupils by educationally advanced pupils of upper classes either individually or in groups.
9. Visit the homes of children who are either continuously absent from the school or sick so that fellow pupils can help them as per their needs.
10. Serve the community by doing simple tasks like writing or reading letters for an illiterate person, and reading books, magazines or newspapers to them.
11. Help voluntary agencies in their work.
12. Serve as a volunteer in weekly markets, public celebrations, social functions etc. and provide drinking water facilities wherever required.
13. Make physical facilities of the school available to the community for organizing various competitions, exhibitions, and other useful programmes.
14. Make the school playground available to children in the village for meaningful activities.
15. Organize various programmes for the eradication of superstition and social malpractices.
16. Participate in social festivals.
17. Undertake voluntary labour (Shram daan) for repairing roads, leveling the grounds etc.
18. Organize competitions for encouraging parents to send their children regularly to school.
19. Organize various competitions, sports and other events for the villagers.

CONCLUSION :-

Education is change in behavior. We get experiences at home, in the society and through social interactions and healthy social relationships. These shape human behavior along the direction desired. It is necessary to study the nature of society to understand the factors, institutions and forces which influence the

behavior of an individual. In short a teacher should be both a philosopher and a sociologist.

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