

Importance of Parents Teachers Association for the Development in the School Education System

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Abstract: The proposed research is focused upon the study of the role of Parents Teachers Association for the development in the School Education System. Parents Teachers Association plays an important function to improve any education system at the national and international level. At present many developed and underdeveloped countries are exercising the implementation of the Parents Teachers Association at the primary and secondary level of the school education system. The main purpose of Parents Teachers Association is to focus on the mutual understanding and participation of parents and teachers in the school. This paper presents the review of urban and rural schools on active participation of parent's teachers association for academic developments.

Keywords: *Parents Teachers Association, parent's participation in schools, school education system*

1. Introduction

Parents Teachers Association plays an effective role in the present scenario of school education system. It is an important group to spread discipline, knowledge and cooperation among the students, parents and teachers at the grass root level [1]. In school education system such associations have provided significant results at the National and International level. Many developed and underdeveloped countries have adopted the formation of Parents Teachers Association at school level. "Parents Teachers Association" is a group that is formed by the parents and teachers who have a positive interest in the harmonious development of the students. During the 19th century, a group of women in America organised the first Parents Teachers Association. Due to its positive influence it has spread at unprecedented rate. The aim of the PTA is to contribute to the development and improvement of all aspects of school life – academic, moral values, sports, culture, extra-curricular activities, equipment and organisation, through the following objectives:

- To bring parents, teachers and students together to nurture a spirit of mutual understanding, civilization, loyalty, fellowship and co-operation with the aim of achieving the highest education, moral, ethical and cultural standards.
- To enable effective communication between parents, teachers, and students and school principal, administration and state education governing body.
- To strengthen the relationship between the home and the school.
- To assist the Principal/Headmaster and teachers of the school for overall welfare of the society.
- To organise, jointly various functions and social activities that will contribute to the objectives of PTA.

- To generate funds for the benefit of the students collectively.
- To maintain full transparency in all matters affecting parents, teachers and students of the school.
- To develop a platform to share and spread the national educational policies among the society
- To maintain a positive image of the school to the broader community.

With the initiation of national education system in India every school is working with the help of this association with the objective of common welfare [2 and 3]. With the implementation of the PTA, significant outcome has been reported from different educational institutes in the recent past. This paper presents the detail outcomes and requirements of the PTA in India for further improvements.

2. Practical implementation and working of PTA in India

Now-a-days teachers can improve the student-teacher relationship with the help of their parents. It is a basic fact that every parent urges to teach their children the civilised things of life. As per the guidelines of Indian Education System, it is required to set up PTA in the schools. With the role of class teacher incharge the association meets once in a month to discuss various issues. At the last day of every month, the school administration invites the parents to school to discuss their child's overall development, cleanliness, behaviour and general progress. The school Principal /Head appoints teachers over a group of children so that the child's behaviour is carefully examined.

2.1 Case study of Senior Secondary School of rural area

A case or six Schools of rural area and of urban area are examined carefully where the following points are considered to evaluate the effectiveness of the PTA:

- a) Regularity in the meeting of the association
- b) Attendance of the parents
- c) Availability of the funds/donation etc.
- d) Attentiveness of the parents regarding academic activities of their wards
- e) Focus of the teacher and the school administration

2.1.1 Regularity in meeting of the association

Regularity in meeting has been taken in to account for different schools. An average four meetings of PTA held during academic session whereas the special meetings have been arranged for needy students and the special attention was given to the students with poor academic performance. The students were counselled in the presence of the parents. Another attention was given to the students with poor health and other discrepancies such as general behaviour and cleanliness. It is observed that the average rate of regular PTA meetings is low but the rate of individual meetings found high.

2.1.2 Attendance of the parents

In the periodic meetings of PTA an average attendance of parents found approximately 80%. 10% parents are not attending due to the household chores. It is observed that the attendance of mothers is more as compare to that of fathers. Attendance of the parent is also poor who are residing at a long distance from the school.

2.1.3 Availability of the funds/donation

As per the data available no grant is available from central funded government agencies to run parents teachers association but minimum funds required for maintenance of PTA has been contributed by the donation.

2.1.4 Attentiveness of the parents regarding academic activities of their ward

Attentiveness of the parent is highly found dependent upon the educational background of the parents, their vision for literacy etc. Attentiveness of the rural based parent for their children found low as compare to the urban however it is observed that the urban parents are busier in their own jobs and spare less time to attend the meetings in the school.

2.1.5 Focus of the teacher and the school administration

Success of the parent's teacher association is purely based upon the focus of school administration on the development of education system where parents association play key role in the mission. Focus is there but a result depends upon the active participation of the head of the educational institute.

3.1 Conclusions

Data of six schools (two urban and four rural) has been examined by contacting parents, teachers and heads of the schools. Data has been collected on the basis of simple questionnaire and personal interaction with the parents, students and head. It is concluded that parents are very supportable who are familiar with their kids from psychology point of view and better judge of the good and bad activities. They know the needs of their children and are in a better position to give information to teachers to enhance their child's learning pace.

On the other hand school teachers keep take care of academic activities, spirit of team work, and sincerity towards the completion of task etc. The school children should also understand the value of the Parents Teachers Association and must obey the directions of both parents and teachers. As per the data available the fund can play an important role to generate sources of learning for the students. In this regard, the school authority should arrange seminars and workshops for parents regarding the donation to schools, betterment and welfare of the students.

The success of many schools is found dependent on the involvement of Parents Teachers Association. It is playing a great role in improving school education. Students, teachers, principals and community will know the place and importance of Parents Teachers Association with this study. Parents Teachers Association also helps the school administration regarding discipline, overall development of the students, effective teaching and infrastructure.

References:

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