

Confidential analysis



Confidential Analysis Running a school is akin to cultivating a sweet smelling garden. The right seeds have to be selected; the right amount of sunshine and nourishment provided, and the right places have to be chosen to transplant these saplings. As Joseph Addison (QuoteWorld, 2009) quoted, “What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to the soul.” Thus, the destiny of a student is shaped not only by the parents and teachers at school, but also by various other contributors who are experts in their own fields.

Education today not only deals with the 3Rs, but also strives to encompass and understand knowledge from all fields of life. According to a study by ACER Leadership Centre, (ACER Leadership Centre, Australia), “Partnerships between key leaders in education, business and the wider community are especially important.” Inclusion of community leaders as partners in the governance of a school will benefit in education and employment for the students and creating social harmony and economic well-being at both individual and community levels. The school gets to benefit from the expertise and experience of leaders in other fields.

First and foremost, the contribution of the donors must be kept in mind while identifying community leaders in the school community. Without the generous and continued support of the patrons, it would neither have been possible to start or run the school, the way it has been done all these years. Sustaining the school and taking adequate steps to ensure its fiscal resources are in place is the first step to empowering the school and the student community. Thus, the role of the financial supporters as community leaders must not be undermined.

Next would be the role of Natural Resource Program Consultant. As a leader

in sociology, the consultant would be able to steer the school towards better understanding of the social problems in the area, and ways to deal with them. The consultant would help the children utilize the available manpower and other resources in the area for the benefit of the student community.

In 2006, The University of Colorado Foundation, the philanthropic partner of the University of Colorado, announced that long-time Denver civic and business leaders Joel Edelman and Robert “ Bob” Willis had joined the Foundation staff. As a consultant Edelman helped the University of Colorado’s School of Medicine relocate to Fitzsimons and spearheaded the creation and launch of a new nursing program for Metropolitan State College of Denver. (CU Foundation Taps Denver Community Leaders for Key Positions, University of Colorado Foundation, January 24th 2006.) Thus, including business leaders helps in tapping new horizons and opportunities for the school community.

Another key leader could be a member actively associated with Church activities. With present day lifestyles giving way to unprecedented stress and lowering of family values, a strong support system needs to be in place for the student community. This member could be a part of the advisory board and could give guest lectures once in a while to both students and parents. Beginning with a nationwide kickoff on February 2, 2009, and continuing throughout the school year, students across America will “ shadow” workplace mentors as they go through a normal day on the job (Job Shadow 2009). As Job Shadow program helps the students to get a feel of the real workplace, it is very important to include representations from well-known companies on the panel of the school. It will be easy for the students to enroll themselves for work-experience in these companies and decide what

best suits their capabilities.

Last but not the least is the role of parents in nurturing the student community. If the students are the shoots, the parents are the roots of the plant. There are parents who not only have the time and inclination, but also wonderful new ideas to help the school grow to newer heights. The support of these parents could be enlisted while selecting community leaders. The huge networking that these parents enjoy could be used to help the school in its fund raising activities.

References:

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