



International Journal of Sciences: Basic and Applied Research (IJSBAR)

ISSN 2307-4531
(Print & Online)

<http://gssrr.org/index.php?journal=JournalOfBasicAndApplied>



Oplan Lagi Sa Eskwela: Absenteeism Reduction Scheme at San Juan Elementary School

Carolyn delos Reyes MA. Ed.^{a*}, Marites Q. Balba Ed.D^b

^{a,b}*San Juan Elementary School, San Juan Sto. Tomas Batangas ,4234, Philippines*

^a*Email: karolynbaretdelosreyes@yahoo.com*

^b*Email: maritesquiatchon@yahoo.com*

Abstract

This study dealt about the Reduction Scheme in absenteeism at San Juan Elementary School. Teachers are always faced learners who are always absent and cannot complete their attendance for the whole school year. Educators, are always think what will be the best solution to reduce and lessen the number of pupils who are always absents inside the classroom.. The authors in [1]; noted that attendance in classrooms is made compulsory to ensure continuity in the student's learning process. The researchers are very captivated to truly comprehend the factors that initiates the absenteeism of the learners at San Juan Elementary School. Also, this study aims to determine the action research writing to create plans, activities ,projects, and programs to lessen the absences of the pupils. Once they are singled out, understood, and analyzed, these issues may be addressed with specific actions and measures. This will eventually the basis and help the learners to perform well inside and outside the school. In addition, teachers and parents will also benefit to this study because they will find what will be the best solution to the rampant absenteeism of the learners. This is a descriptive qualitative research. It of composed of one hundred fifty –seven (157) pupils from different grade 4 to 6 level , eight (8) faculty members and one hundred fifty-seven (157) parents . The researchers used three data gathering procedures namely, interview method and discussion, survey method. From the research findings, it is therefore clear that the aim of the study is the reduction of absenteeism and gets 100% attendance from the learners at San Juan Elementary School.

* Corresponding author.

Based on the results, the number of attendance of the pupils from kindergarten up to grade 6 level for the school year 2016-2017 clearly described that in the months of July to February, the learners were not able to complete the number of days of their attendance. However, The distribution of respondents according to the general factors that causes the absenteeism of the learners out of one hundred fifty –seven respondents from learners and parents category financial matters got the highest percentage or 54 (34.29%) - students, 45(28.66%) -parents. In addition to the results, from the teachers' category family matters got the most score (4 or 50%). Lastly, was come up with possible solutions and recommendations to reduce the number of absenteeism of the learners and it shows that 38.22% (60) responses answered is to Inform parents about the benefit of keeping their children in school.

Keywords: absenteeism; learners; descriptive design; reduction scheme; Philippines.

1. Introduction

Teachers are always faced learners who are always absent and cannot complete their attendance for the whole school year. Educators are always think what will be the best solution to reduce and lessen the number of pupils who are always absents inside the classroom. Every school, absenteeism is the most usual problem that faced every school year. The author in [2] noted that absenteeism defined as is the habit of staying away from school without providing a genuine or any reason for not attending classes. Absenteeism is a truant behavior that negatively affects the performance among students. In addition to absenteeism can lead to depression and also result in poor quality of education as a result of time lost while being away from school. It could also lead to moral degradation that leads to drug abuse, early pregnancies and unruly behavior. The author in [2] noted that, Educators are always planned their 100% percent Daily Lesson Plan every day. Teacher as the facilitator of the classroom always considered if all the learners will get the lesson proper and organized suitable activities and worksheets for their students. Teachers think a variety of pedagogical approaches like 2c,2i and 1r which stands for constructivism, collaborative, integrative, inquiry based and reflective. Teacher attended seminar that will cater the needs of his/her learners and always be ready and prepared every time they faced their students. The author in [3] noted that said the approaches was based on Regional Memorandum No.233 series 2016 which entitled the Implementation of the pedagogical Approaches mandated by R.A. 10533.

The authors in [4] noted that as an educator, 100% percent of the attendance of the learner is the most essential aspect so that they can acquire the learning progress of the pupils. The author in [5] noted that unfortunately, it is very ambiguous to grasp the perfect attendance. The author in [5] noted that No matter how interesting and well-prepared the lessons and teaching materials are there are bound to be students who miss out on the day's activities—willingly or unwillingly. The researchers are very fascinated to truly comprehend the factors that initiates the absenteeism of the learners at San Juan Elementary School. Also, this study aims to determine the action research writing to articulate plans, projects, and programs to minimize the absences of the pupils. Once they are singled out, understood, and analyzed, these issues may be addressed with specific actions and measures. This will eventually result in the better performance of the students, teachers, and the school in general.

1.1. Action Research Questions

The researchers aim for the reduction of absenteeism at San Juan Elementary School .Specifically, the researchers would like to answer the following research questions

1. What is the percentage of attendance of the pupils at San Juan Elementary Schools in the school year 2016 -2017?
2. What are the general factors that cause student absenteeism at San Juan Elementary School?
3. What are the possible solutions and recommendations to bring down the incidence of absenteeism in San Juan Elementary School?

1.2. Proposed Innovation, Intervention and Strategy /Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research is to reduce the number of absenteeism among the pupils in San Juan Elementary School. A development of research compendium containing questionnaire form(interview), survey form (Check list) research flyers and research presentation. Also this study is focused only on the programs for the to the learners to go to school always and eradicate the drop out of the students at San Juan Elementary School. The respondents of the study are the learners, teachers and parents in San Juan Elementary School. The respondents of the study were composed of one hundred fifty –seven (157) pupils from different grade 4 to 6 level , eight (8) faculty members and one hundred fifty-seven (157) parents from San Juan Elementary Schools in Sto.Tomas, Batangas from the school year 2017-2018. The researcher used frequency and percentage.

II. Action Research Methods /Methodology and Research Design

This is a descriptive qualitative research which aim is the reduction of absenteeism at San Juan Elementary School. The respondents of the study are the learners, teachers and parents in San Juan Elementary School. The respondents of the study were composed of one hundred fifty –seven (157) pupils from different grade 4 to 6 level , eight (8) faculty members and one hundred fifty-seven (157) parents from San Juan Elementary Schools in Sto.Tomas, Batangas from the school year 2017-2018. The researcher used frequency and percentage. The researchers used three data gathering procedures namely, interview method and discussion, survey method, Also, the following data gathering tools namely; checklist, questionnaire, discussion and retrospective interview guide were used to attain the objectives of this study. A survey questionnaire was prepared, validated, distributed, tallied and interpreted for the action research, writing determining the extent the research title, formulating the research problem, drafting the review of related literature and studies, determining the research design and methodology, preparing research tools, conducting data gathering procedure, presenting and interpreting results, drawing conclusions, writing the recommendation and preparing the research output as well as identifying the common research topics .An interview guide questions follows after accomplishing the survey questionnaire in order to validate and confirm the responses given by the research participants. The design of the research compendium followed three phases namely the input, throughput and the output phases. The Input phase includes gathering of literature about action research writing, preparation of research

questionnaires and guide questions, treatment of gathered data as well as identifying the respondents of the study. The throughput phase includes drafting of the research worksheets, research flyers and research audio-video presentation. Finally, the output phase includes the pilot-test and modification of the research compendium., and the programs and plan for the said action research . The entire procedure is presented in Figure 1.

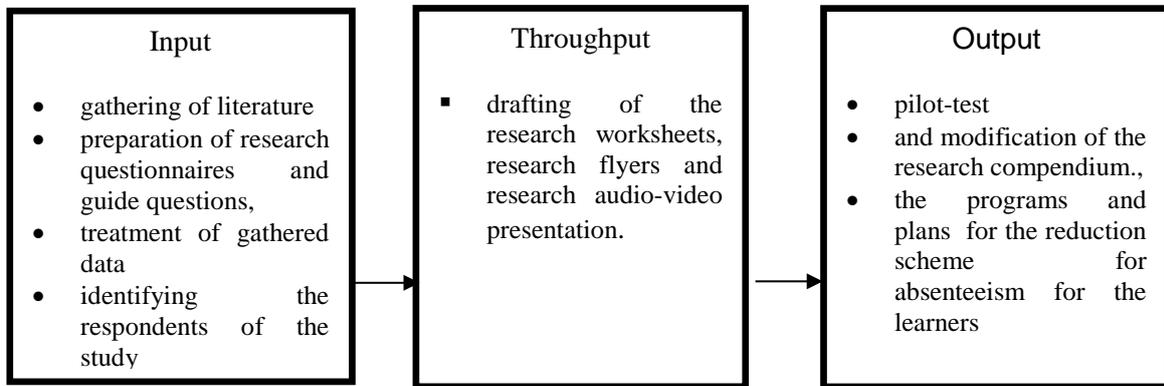


Figure 1: The schematic representation of the significant concepts in this study.

2. Results and Discussion

Table 1: The percentage of the Learners’ Attendance at San Juan Elementary School for the School Year 2016-2017

| Grade Level | MONTHS | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------|-------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|----------|-------|-------|
| | June | July | August | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | April |
| Kindergarten | 100 | 98 | 98 | 95 | 97 | 99 | 100 | 98 | 99 | 100 | 100 |
| Grade I | 100 | 96 | 97 | 97 | 96 | 98 | 100 | 98 | 97 | 100 | 100 |
| Grade II | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 99 | 100 | 99 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Grade III | 100 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 98 | 98 | 100 | 98 | 98 | 100 | 100 |
| Grade IV | 100 | 97 | 96 | 97 | 96 | 97 | 97 | 98 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Grade V | 100 | 97 | 95 | 97 | 98 | 96 | 100 | 96 | 96 | 100 | 100 |
| Grade VI | 100 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 98 | 99 | 98 | 98 | 100 | 100 |
| Total | 100 | 97.43 | 97.14 | 97.14 | 97.43 | 97.86 | 99.43 | 97.86 | 98.29 | 100 | 100 |

The author in [6] noted that attendance is an important factor in school success among children and youth. Studies show that better attendance is related to higher academic achievement for students of all backgrounds, but particularly for children with lower socio-economic status. Beginning in kindergarten, students who attend school regularly score higher on tests than their peers who are frequently absent. As gleaned in the Table 1, the number of attendance of the pupils from kindergarten up to grade 6 level for the school year 2016-2017

clearly described that in the months of July to February, the learners were not able to complete the number of days of their attendance. In the month of August and September, depicts the lowest percentage of attendance or 97.14 %, followed by 97.43% in the months of July and October. Meanwhile, only three months (June, March and April) got only the one hundred percent complete attendance for the school year 2016-2017. The table indicates that learners cannot go to school always and complete their attendance for the whole school year. However, it is very hard for the teacher to reach perfect attendance of his/her pupils every day. The author in [5] noted that No matter how interesting and well-prepared the lessons and teaching materials are there are bound to be students who miss out on the day’s activities—willingly or unwillingly. Teachers are always think the reason why pupils cannot complete their attendance, it was very hard for the teachers to teach if the pupils cannot cope the lesson because they missed certain topic inside the classroom. They become uncomfortable because they don’t understand the lesson and they feel afraid to be call by their teachers because they were absent from the past days. However, teachers are eager to convince their pupils to come to school every day and express to the students the importance of attendance while they are in the school. Student’s attendance can build a good foundation so that they will succeed to their studies. Also, it will indicate a good performances inside the classroom because it sink to their mind that if they go to school every day it will give them better performances. Getting the 100% of the learners’ attendance is a very impressive indicator for the school because teachers can motivate that learner to pursue their interest to learn.

Table 2: General Factors that causes of absenteeism at San Juan Elementary School For the School Year 2016-2107

| Causes of Absenteeism | Learners | | Parents | | Teachers | |
|---|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| | Frequency | % | Frequency | % | Frequency | % |
| 1.Lack of subject interest, | 4 | 2.55 | 12 | 7.64 | 0 | 0 |
| 2.lack of personal interest in studies | 6 | 3.82 | 7 | 4.46 | 0 | 0 |
| 3.available opportunities for entertainment like malls, movie halls etc., | 2 | 1.27 | 13 | 8.28 | 0 | 0 |
| 4.mental capacity of a students | 7 | 4.46 | 18 | 11.46 | 0 | 0 |
| 5.Too much pamperness from family | 2 | 1.27 | 8 | 5.10 | 0 | 0 |
| 6.Diseases | 29 | 18.47 | 30 | 19.11 | 3 | 37.50 |
| 7.family matters (broken family) | 39 | 24.84 | 12 | 7.64 | 4 | 50.00 |
| 8.Financial Matters | 54 | 34.39 | 45 | 28.66 | 1 | 12.50 |
| 9.School Infrastructural Facilities: | 2 | 1.27 | 5 | 3.18 | 0 | 0 |
| 10.Teacher approach | 12 | 7.64 | 7 | 4.46 | 0 | 0 |
| | 157 | 100.00 | 157 | 100.00 | 8 | 100.00 |
| TOTAL | 157 | 100.00 | 157 | 100.00 | 8 | 100.00 |

The author in [1] noted that PLB Professional Learning Board there are most common reason why student got their absences because of the following ; sicknesses, lack of interests, in class and activities , fear of going to school due to bullying and poor peer relations , Furthermore , The distribution of respondents according to the general factors that causes the absenteeism of the learners is depicted on Table 2,out of one hundred fifty – seven respondents from learners and parents category financial matters got the highest percentage or 54 (34.29%)- students , 45(28.66%) -parents. In addition to the results, from the teachers’

category family matters got the most score (4 or 50%). Furthermore, second factors that causes the absenteeism of the pupils are the following ; family matters(broken family) (39 or 24.84%), diseases (30 or 19.11%) (3 or 37.50%) [2] Eneza Education in 2013 STATED that Absenteeism in school is the habit of staying away from school without providing a genuine or any reason for not attending classes. Absenteeism is a truant behavior that negatively affects the performance among students. It mentioned by [2] that the factors of absenteeism are the following; phobic adolescence, lack of interest, pamperness , private coaching, diseases, school infrastructural facilities, entertainment. After knowing the causes of absenteeism, teacher and parents and students must pay attention to those factors. It is very alarming that family matters (broken family), financial matters, teacher approach are the common reasons why pupils from San Juan Elementary

School cannot go to school and cannot achieve the 100% attendance of the learners. Knowing those factors can be a big help to provide a certain programs, activities and assessment to the parents, pupils and teachers. Every single factor can bring big chances to an individual if they continue the habit of absenteeism. It might a big problem for the parents because students cannot finished their studies, can lead to early pregnancy, and can add to big population of unemployed individual to the Philippines. The Philippine government provide a program for every individual that all Filipino must go to school and finished their studies so that the country will be more productive through the help of young Filipino who will complete their studies in elementary , high school and college level. It mentioned in [7] that The Philippine Education for All (EFA) 2015 is a vision and a holistic program of reforms that aims at improving the quality of basic education for every Filipino by 2015. (<http://www.cbephils.net/efa.html>)That’s why as an educator we have the power to help learners to pursue their dreams to finished their studies and must go to school every day and achieve the 100% attendance inside the classroom.

Table 3: Possible Solution And Recommendations To bring down the incidence of Absenteeism At San Juan Elementary School

| POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS /RECOMMENDATIONS | Frequency | % |
|---|---|-------|
| | 1. Inform parents about the benefit of keeping their children in school | 60 |
| 2.Emphasize that academic success is very much dependent on student attitude towards school | 30 | 19.11 |
| 3. Provide activities that will be suitable for the interest and needs of the learners and always consider the multiple intelligences of the students | 17 | 10.83 |
| 4. Teacher must have a weekly follow-up to the parents | 12 | 7.64 |
| 5. Provide monitoring for the daily attendance of the pupils | 18 | 11.46 |
| 6. Educate the students the importance of education in their daily lives | 20 | 12.74 |
| Total | 157 | 100 |

Table 3 shows the possible solutions and recommendations to reduce the number of absenteeism of the learners and it shows that 38.22% (60) responses answered is to Inform parents about the benefit of keeping their children in school, second is emphasize that academic success is very much dependent on student attitude towards school which garnered 19.11% (30). Meanwhile the lowest response is from the teachers must have a weekly follow-up to the parents which got 12responses or 7.64%. The author in [4] noted that In addition to Student absenteeism and The author in [6] noted that Student absenteeism is a

major concern for elementary and secondary school educators. The effects of absenteeism show that it hurts both students' academic achievement and the school, where it can cause time loss and morale problems. It is very important to lessen the number of absences of the students in our school. Parent, teacher and students must all aware that they have the power to help students to stop the bad habit of absenteeism. The author in [1] noted that there are some ways and steps on how to prevent and lessen the chronic problem of the students in absences ; Identifying the cause, imparting knowledge, involving parents , school as a second home for the students, engaging classroom , motivation and extracurricular activities.

3. Conclusion And Recommendations

From the research findings, it is therefore clear that the aim of the study is the reduction of absenteeism at San Juan Elementary School.

3.1 Conclusions

Schools can't be effective if students don't show up. The less often students are in class, the less they will learn. But the correlation between attendance and student achievement that the study found was striking. Students, who were chronically absent, tend to lose their opportunity to learn more and be active during the discussion. Students who missed a lot of school were far less likely to graduate from high school. Also learners encountered several problems that cause their absenteeism like ; financial matters, family matters (broken family) and different diseases. Furthermore this problem of chronic absence negatively affects his/her academic performance. Chronically absent students are at a disadvantage both socially and academically. They miss out on critical stages of social interaction and development with their peers, while simultaneously limiting their academic progress. The author in [5] noted that this can result in low self-esteem, social isolation, and dissatisfaction that could well have precipitated non-attendance in the first place.

Based on the results As gleaned in the Table 1, the number of attendance of the pupils from kindergarten up to grade 6 level for the school year 2016-2017 clearly described that in the months of July to February, the learners were not able to complete the number of days of their attendance .In the month of August and September , depicts the lowest percentage of attendance or 97.14 % , followed by 97.43% in the months of July and October. Meanwhile, only three months (June, March and April) got only the one hundred percent complete attendance for the school year 2016-2017. The table indicates that learners cannot go to school always and complete their attendance for the whole school year. The distribution of respondents according to the general factors that causes the absenteeism of the learners is depicted on Table 2., out of one hundred fifty –seven respondents from learners and parents category financial matters got the highest percentage or 54 (34.29%)- students , 45(28.66%) -parents. In addition to the results, from the teachers' category family matters got the most score (4 or 50%).

Furthermore, second factors that causes the absenteeism of the pupils are the following ; family matters(broken family) (39 or 24.84%), diseases (30 or 19.11%) (3 or 37.50%). However , the following got the lowest number of response from the different respondents namely ; available opportunities for

entertainment like malls, movie halls etc., too much pamperness from family, school infrastructural facilities: (2 or 1.27%); School Infrastructural Facilities(5 or 3.18%), and last Financial Matters(1 or 12.50%). Table 3 shows the possible solutions and recommendations to reduce the number of absenteeism of the learners and it shows that 38.22% (60) responses answered is to Inform parents about the benefit of keeping their children in school, second is emphasize that academic success is very much dependent on student attitude towards school which garnered 19.11% (30). Meanwhile the lowest response is teacher must have a weekly follow-up to the parents which got 12 responses or 7.64%.

3.2 Recommendations

The researchers came up with the following recommendations; In order to limit or eliminate absenteeism, it is recommended that;

1. Inform parents about the benefit of keeping their children in school
2. Emphasize that academic success is very much dependent on student attitude towards school
3. Provide activities that will be suitable for the interest and needs of the learners and always consider the multiple intelligences of the students
4. Teacher must have a weekly follow-up to the parents
5. Provide monitoring for the daily attendance of the pupils
6. Educate the students the importance of education in their daily lives

References

- [1] PLB Professional Learning Board: <https://k12teacherstaffdevelopment.com/tlb/how-can-i-prevent-or-reduce-absenteeism-in-the-classroom>
- [2] Timothy Keter (2013) Eneza Education (2013)
- [3] Republic Act 10533 ; Regional Memorandum; Implementation of the Pedagogical Approaches
- [4] Murcia ,Loren (2015) Action Research on Student and Pupil Absenteeism in School
- [5] K. Coloma ; <http://www.academia.edu/7007207/ABSENTEEISM>
- [6] Child Trends (2015) Child Trends Databank. (2015). Student Absenteeism, <https://www.childtrends.org/indicators/student-absenteeism/>
- [7] Leuterio ,Rommel (2012) <http://www.cbephils.net/efa.html>
- [8] Torres, Gina A (2016) | Teacher III | Sto. Niño Biaan Elementary School | Mariveles, Bataan, <http://udyong.net/teachers-corner/7995-a-literature-based-approach-in-teaching>