Parents and nonprofessional staff members’

contributions to student success – **Denise Tomaselli**

There are many ways in which parents and nonprofessional staff members contribute to the success of students. Parents and other family members are probably the most important contributors to the success of their child, because they know the child better than anyone. Parents and other family members are able to share information with teachers that the school would not know otherwise. It is important to keep open lines of communication with the family so that they are aware of what is going on at school, and can give input as needed (Vaughn & Bos, 2014).

Paraprofessionals are also individuals who are able to contribute to the success of the student. Paraprofessionals are there to assist the student in their learning, and provide extra support in the classroom (Educational Impact, 2010-2013).

There are many other nonprofessional staff members who contribute to the success of the student from the bus driver and lunch server, to their athletic coach. Any individual in the school setting is a potential person who can play a part in the success of a student. All it takes for a student to feel comfortable in their learning environment can sometimes be as simple as receiving a warm smile, and knowing that they are cared about.

Athletic coaches have a great opportunity to speak into the lives of their student-athletes to be individuals who are responsible, hard working and contributing members of society. Coaches can help their student-athletes set goals for themselves and their future, which begins with their education. Coaches can help the student-athletes to have a good work ethic in school as well as on the field, and require their athletes to do well in school. The praise from a coach for doing well in school goes a long way in the success of the student-athlete because they strive to please their coach.

The success of a student is a cooperative effort; if parents and other nonprofessional staff members work together with the teachers, then the student will be stronger, and will have the support they need to do well in school.

References

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