How to promote HPS effectively from the Perspective of School Management

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What is an HPS?

6 Key Areas of Development

- (1) Healthy school polices
- (2) School health care and promotion services
- (3) Action competencies for healthy living
- (4) School social environment
- (5) Community links
- (6) School physical environment

Defining

School management

- ▷ IMC or SMC
- School principal and his/her leadership team
- The task force or committee spearheading the drive towards HPS

Health

- Total health for individuals: physical, mental, social and spiritual
- Settings approach to health: school, community, city, nation, region & global

Role of the Principal & his/her leadership team

- Presumption: the school has already explored the issue & understand the why's, how's and what's of the HPS project
- Give clear and unequivocal indication of the school's position on the HPS project in the school and develop a shared vision for it, first in the leadership team and then among the staff
- Explain the supportive structure for the initiative: the responsible task force/committee, teacher-in-charge (VP/ST?), powers and budgets, etc.
- Attend to the 6 key areas and decide where the intervention point should be: to be aligned with the teaching and learning of the school
- Formulate the general action plan: manpower, timeline, budget, milestones, etc.
- > *Monitor* the **implementation** and **evaluation** of the plan
- For the success stories and recognise the efforts even if they are small and relate them to the vision to consolidate it
- > Present or receive awards for health achievements

Role of the HPS Task Force/Committee

- Share the HPS vision and the school's plan for it among members and spearhead the school health effort
- Explain the health promotion work and its meanings to colleagues and parents
- > Include any health initiative or activity in the school's annual plan
- > Spell out the division of labour clearly: what & who
- > Seek continuing training for the members
- Seek opportunities for inter-school sharing and learning as well as outside links and support e.g. CUHK's Centre for Health Education and Health Promotion and all its established resources on the web
- Seize whatever opportunities to promote health e.g. COVID-19 in school
- Nurture interested and talented students to help with the promotional efforts

Role of the IMC/SMC

- > Learn about the HPS project (the principal to inform)
- Give approval and support (to seek)
- Participate in events to indicate support if possible (to invite)

Common Concerns & Foci

> Understand the issue /overall consensus

Foster a shared vision: a healthy school environment for healthy learning and teaching and for sustainable school development

Provide support: spiritual and material

Give psychic and practical support

Ensure a good information flow: internal/external

Information is the lifeblood and make it flow freely

> Think big, start small and scale up

Evolution is better than revolution

Celebrate success

Recognize wins and gains even when they are small and preliminary and relate them to the vision





Thank You!