Best Practice - I

1 Title:

Student voice - Active Participation of Student Council

1.1 Goal:

- To help the college authorities to organize various activities.
- To create an environment most conducive for the academic and extra- curricular activities.
- To co-operate with the college management in the smooth running of the college.
- To encourage the students to participate in various programs and competitions.
- To bring out the latent talents of the students by means of competitive activities.
- To help the students develop traits such as leadership, decision making, co-operation and compassion.

1.2 The Context:

The pioneers of St Philomena College introduced one of the good practices, 'Student Council', participatory leadership which has been focusing on students' leadership quality and providing various opportunities. Student Council body helps to enrich the goal of the institution that might be considered as active as democratic government. It is often recorded its own building on the campus dedicated to organizational activities, representation and academic support of the membership. To agree with and give encouragement to this, St. Philomena College supports and gives a special focus on the involvement of the student council, which ensured the quality enhancement of both the sides. Thus, we support to an outstanding activity which existed in our institution and strive hard to reach our goal.

1.3 The Practice:

Along with the guidance of welfare officers and head of the institution, the Student Council has special role to play in the fulfilment of the goal and objectives of the college. The Student Council consists of president, Secretary and Joint secretary. It is a Unique system to practice 'Direct decision making while choosing leaders.

For the election of the Student Council, nominations are called for; from among all the courses of III-year students who have completed their lower examinations. For the post of president and Secretary any candidate can contest, whereas, Joint Secretary Post is reserved only for girl students. Election Campaign is restricted only to banners, slogans, posters. Election is conducted under the strict norm of the college. After the declarations of the results, elected office bearers are felicitated by the head of the institution. Victory is also allowed to enjoy, jubilation, which is restricted to the college quadrangle and thereby all the contestants enjoy a healthy friendship.

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1.4 Evidence of success:

Young people have the power to make a difference; to make this democratic consciousness; St Philomena College strives hard to strengthen democratic values amongst the students. One of the important impacts can be seen among our students is that; they are able to think nationally and even globally. Though their curriculum does permit them the freedom to tailor their courses according to strengths and interests, still most of the students stay focused, prepared and capable of independent thinking. The Students Council holds regular meeting and helps in maintaining discipline and cleanliness in the college campus. The members of the Council take active part in organizing various co-curricular and extracurricular activities of the college. College has already produced central and state ministers, MPs, MLAs and leaders at local level. Thereby it helped to contribute positively to the society.

True meaning of education is being fulfilled by the active participation of Students Council and guidance and support of the institution. Overall personality development, intellectual, social, cultural and academic environment are being generated successfully. Through Student Council, aim of the institution has come true; co-operation, harmony and dedication are considered as the focal aspects like liberty, equality and fraternity which are mentioned in the Preamble of Indian Constitution. Proud to acknowledge that our students are able to think diversely where they can understand the essence of nationalism, this would help them to get an idea of cosmopolitanism.

1.5 Problems encountered and resource required:

However, scarcity of funds continues to be a deterring factor in addressing the various issues crippling their aspirations to soar high. If resources, funds can be mobilized, it will pave way for a phenomenal growth of the institution to expand and sharpen its skill and to reach out more and more.