



THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF TEACHERS IN INCREASING STUDENT MOTIVATION POST COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to know and explain the importance of the role of teachers in increasing student motivation in the post-COVID-19 pandemic. This is done to see the extent of the teacher's role in providing support and guidance to students after the transition period of online learning methods to learning methods like before, namely face-to-face. This study used qualitative research with data collection methods through observation and interviews with teachers in 13 high school / equivalent schools in Palopo City. The data analysis technique uses the interactive data analysis technique of Miles and Hubberman's theory with 4 stages of the analysis process, namely data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. The research results obtained from this research are that the important role of teachers in increasing students' learning motivation after the Covid-19 pandemic is very necessary to increase students' interest in learning. Interest in learning that grows well will certainly affect the achievements that will be produced by students at school. So it is very clear that a professional teacher will play a role as a motivator to improve the academic achievement of students where teachers teach and educate.

Keywords:

Roles, teachers, motivation, student learning

INTRODUCTION

Education is an effort to build and improve the quality of human resources towards the era of globalization which is full of challenges so that it is realized that education is something very basic for every individual. This is in line with the mandate of Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System which explains that "Education is a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and skills what is necessary for himself, society, nation and state."

Since the Covid-19 pandemic hit the world, including Indonesia certainly had an impact on several aspects of life, including the learning aspect. The Covid-19 pandemic forces everyone to adapt to new habits, including the teaching and learning process at school. The inability to adapt and transform will increase problems and slow down efforts to achieve educational goals. Therefore, educational efforts and strategies are needed in the transition to the post-pandemic era, including the importance of the role of teachers in providing motivation for learning for their students.

Teachers according to Law Number 14 of 2005 "are professional educators with the main focus duties are educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training,





assessing and evaluating learners in early childhood education through formal education, primary education, and secondary education."

Teachers are one of the main components of education which is the key to success in improving the quality of education (Mulyono, 2013). Lack of mastery of methods and tools that support teaching success can be one of the causes of low quality of education in Indonesia. A teacher must have knowledge, experience, skills and competencies related to character and have noble morals in himself that will be part of his life, because what he does well will also affect students. Education will be difficult to produce something good without being started by good teachers (Azisah Siti, 2014).

Teachers are one of the components that determine the quality of education, the success or failure of the learning process, the achievement of educational and learning goals, the organization of facilities and infrastructure, students, media, learning tools and resources. Good teacher leadership can create effectiveness and efficiency in learning and can shape the discipline of students and teachers themselves (Supardi, 2014). Teachers' efforts to create a conducive learning atmosphere so that students always show perseverance, enthusiasm, and full participation is something that is very urgent and determines the success of learning. In addition, it is also supported by the teacher's ability to prevent student behavior that interferes with the course of learning activities as well as the physical condition of the learning place and the teacher's ability to manage it, (Muzakkir, 2012).

Motivation plays an important role in the teaching and learning process for both teachers and students. For teachers, knowing student learning motivation is very necessary to maintain and improve student enthusiasm for learning. In students, learning motivation can foster enthusiasm for learning, so students are motivated to learn. Students can carry out learning activities happily if driven by motivation.

Motivation comes from the Latin, *Movere* which means drive or driving force or motive, which Defined as the driving force within a person to carry out certain activities to achieve a goal. Even motives can be interpreted as complex situations in individuals that encourage individuals to behave in an effort to achieve a survival goal (Mohamad Surya, 2014). While learning motivation is essentially a process that shows how intensive students are in achieving the direction and goals of the learning process they experience (Euis Karwati and Donni Juni Priansa, 2014).

So it can be concluded that learning motivation is a general driving force in students which causes learning activities to occur, ensures the continuity of learning activities, and directs learning activities so that the students' desired learning goals can be achieved. The motivation that causes students to be willing to carry out learning activities can come from within or from outside themselves.

Currently, many students are less motivated to study. This can be seen from the attitude of students who are indifferent to the learning process, do not pay attention to the teacher when explaining the material and do not carry out the tasks given by the teacher. For some students, the online learning system doctrine still



exists which causes students to lack focus in following the offline learning process after the Covid-19 pandemic.

This is certainly one of the challenges for teachers to always come up with ideas and ideas to increase student interest and motivation in the learning process. Strengthening and instilling student motivation in schools is certainly in the hands of teachers. Because apart from being educators, teachers are people who are admired and imitated and have an important role in the success of the learning process. The success of a student is of course none other than success of the teacher in carrying out his role as a professional educator.

METHOD

The type of research used is qualitative research. Qualitative research is research that aims to holistically understand the phenomena experienced by the subject, such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, etc., and describe them in the form of words and language, in a certain context and using various natural methods.

According to Bogdan and Taylor, qualitative research is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of people's written or spoken words and observable behavior (Moleong (2017:4). The aim of qualitative research is to explain a phenomenon in as much depth as possible by collecting data in as much depth as possible, this shows the importance of the depth and detail of the data studied. The use of qualitative research methods in this research is to facilitate data collection about the importance of the role of teachers in increasing student motivation after the pandemic. This research was conducted in several schools in Palopo City, namely at the high school level, totaling 13 schools, with 13 teacher subjects.

This research aims to see the extent of the teacher's role in increasing student learning motivation in the transition period, namely the post-COVID-19 pandemic period in Palopo City. This research also requires the role of teachers to continue to provide motivation for learning enthusiasm to their students in order to complete the learning process optimally. In this study, the research instrument used was a structured interview. Interviews were conducted with teachers who had been determined to be research subjects by the researchers. The list of interviews submitted to teachers was carried out to obtain detailed information about the importance of the role of teachers as educators in order to always be able to increase student learning motivation after the current pandemic. Meanwhile, the data analysis technique used in this research is the interactive data analysis technique from Miles and Hubberman. Interactive data analysis technique is a data analysis technique that consists of four components of the analysis process, namely data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions (Rohmadi & Nasucha, 2015: 87-88).





RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From the results of research conducted by researchers through an interview process with teachers who were informants and resource persons, it can be concluded that the online learning process is still very impressive among students. There are even some students who experience a decrease in enthusiasm for learning because they are accustomed to learning online using cellphones, iPads and laptops. The online learning process that has been carried out for almost 2 years certainly gives impressions and memories to some students.

During learning during the pandemic, students complained of high workload and fatigue, and some students lost motivation due to the pandemic (Niemi & Kousa, 2020). Post-pandemic conditions prove that students participate in remote learning in difficult circumstances and often without clear guidance or support from their teachers and parents. This impact is reflected in the average student learning motivation which has decreased dramatically, causing their learning motivation to disappear as before the pandemic and their learning performance to be less than optimal.

The real problems they face are low concentration, difficulty managing time, lack of interest in studying, taking notes and reading. Most students cannot manage their time well and effectively, and some even feel they don't have time to study. The problem that arises is not because there are too many time-consuming activities, but also because the time used is not optimal.

The important role of teachers in motivating student learning is indispensable. From the results of research conducted through interviews, data were obtained that teachers as motivators mean that teachers are people who encourage students to increase enthusiasm or develop student learning (Elly Manizar, 2015).

The importance of the role of teachers in motivating student learning is very necessary, from the results of research conducted through interviews, data were obtained that Teacher as a motivator means that the teacher as someone who encourages students in order to increase the enthusiasm or development of student learning activities (Elly Manizar, 2015). Teachers who become informants and resource persons from Senior Schools (SMA / equivalent) provide information that teachers, especially teachers who are in class X encourage increasing student morale by being patient when teaching, by providing material that is very easy for students to understand, and always providing real examples so that students understand. Explain things that students do not understand in polite and friendly language, both in class and outside the classroom. There are several changes when teachers motivate student learning, including:

1. Giving grades to students after completing tests from the teacher as a form of assessment which will be included in the report card makes children motivated to learn because they are motivated by the desire to get good grades.
2. Give prizes if students excel or win championships in competitions. For example, when the teacher asks about the lesson but the students don't answer, even though they know the answer. When the teacher says, "Who



- can answer, I give you a pen," as an encouragement for students to answer questions from the teacher.
3. Create learning competition between students, competition with peers and classmates. David C. McClelland said that each individual has their own needs depending on the mentality and character that shapes him. Everyone has a strong desire to achieve success. This motivation makes people try harder to achieve individual achievements than prizes, but not all children consider competition very important in learning (Nanang Hasan Susanto and Cindy Lestari, 2018).
 4. Give tests when the learning material is ready, so that teachers also know the success or failure of the material delivered yesterday, by looking at student test results. Repetition is proven to make children eager to learn. For example, the teacher said that soon there will be a test, all children are enthusiastic about learning.
 5. Fostering students' passion for learning by paying attention to the goals of students who come to school every day, because there are elements of learning goals and intentions, so that better learning outcomes can be achieved. Researchers have proven that encouraging a child's desire to learn keeps children motivated to learn.
 6. Fostering interest in the process as Richard M said: High student learning motivation is related to high interest, intelligence, active learning and desire to achieve (Richard M. Ryan and Edward L. Deci (2000). Where teachers foster a sense of pleasure towards subjects that students do not like, so that learning will run smoothly and produce satisfactory results accompanied by interest.

Based on the results of research conducted by researchers, it can be seen that the importance of learning motivation in learning is that motivation will encourage student enthusiasm for learning and vice versa. If motivation is lacking, the enthusiasm for learning students will weaken. A child who is motivated to learn something strives to study well and diligently in the hope of achieving better results. In addition, according to Mc. Donald (Oemar Hamalik, 2008)), motivation is a change in one's inner (personal) energy characterized by the emergence of feelings and reactions to achieve goals. As the theory proposed by Hamzah B. Uno (Ratna Sari, Asri Melani, 2012), the importance of the role of learning and learning motivation includes:

1. The role of learning motivation in determining learning reinforcement. Motivation plays a role in improving learning when children learn to face a problem that needs to be solved and can only be solved with the help they experience.
2. The role of motivation can clarify learning goals. This can be interpreted that learning is closely related to the meaning of learning. Children will be interested in learning something if what they learn can at least be known or used by the child.
3. Motivation determines learning perseverance.





As a motivator, there are many ways that teachers can do to increase student learning motivation. One of them is the teacher saying words of encouragement to students, so that students have good motivation in following the learning process. and provide full support to students so that they always have an interest in the learning process. Based on the results of interviews with teachers who were resource persons, it was discovered that some students experienced changes in learning motivation, students were more active in the learning process, enthusiastic about completing their assignments and had hopes of getting good grades from their learning outcomes.

CONCLUSION

Learning motivation in the learning process is important. The goal is to maximize learning for students and minimize barriers as much as possible. So that the desired results in the learning process can be achieved optimally. For this reason, efforts need to be made to stimulate student learning motivation in post-pandemic conditions like today, so that the learning process can run smoothly.

Based on the results of research conducted that teachers who teach at the high school level or equivalent in Palopo City as many as 13 schools have carried out their duties as teachers who are able to be motivators for their students. Important The role of teachers in increasing student learning motivation after the Covid-19 pandemic is very much needed to increase student interest in learning. Interest in learning that grows well will certainly affect the achievements that will be produced by students at school. So it is very clear that a professional teacher will play a role as a motivator to improve the academic achievement of students where teachers teach and educate.

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