

IMPRESSION OF A TEACHER'S DAY

Gülhan Can

gulhan.can@bilkent.edu.tr

Bilkent University

M. Sencer Corlu

Bilkent University

Abstract

This was a first impression about a teacher's day in a high school. Bilkent High School's general properties and school rules was introduced. What is expected from a student-teacher during this school experience period was explained. We had a chance to observe teachers' daily routine. How should be a teacher's time planning, organizing, classroom management and communication skills were explored. A teacher's responsibilities, studies, relationships between other teachers, students, parents, school managers and other staff were also observed.

Key Words: School Experience, First Impression, Teacher's Daily Routine.

Introduction

The purpose of this article was to explain my observations about a teacher's day in a high school. Our mentor's relationships between other teachers, students, school managers and staff were experienced.

A Teacher's Day In Bilkent High School

Our mentor's name was Ece Biçer. When we first met she had just finished her lesson. She introduced herself and learnt some about us (our names, which university we graduated etc.). She was very warm and friendly. Then she took us for a small trip in the school. We wandered in classes, different branches' teacher rooms, library, conference room, refectory, laboratories, game room and also club rooms. Among them I was really impressed paintings on the walls. Each of them was the students' artworks. Our mentor informed us about the paintings' exhibitions also. She told about clubs in the school and her social responsibility project. She was happy since we all wanted to involve the project.

While we were walking around, our mentor introduced us to other teachers and staff. Her communication style was kind and well-balanced. After that we turned back to the Mathematics Teachers' Room. It took almost one hour to walk around and have some information about the school. Then our mentor had a meeting with deputy director of the school. While she had her meeting we observed a lesson. When we turned back to the room she told us the meeting's content: Students and Mathematics teachers were observed in a lesson at least two times in a year. Additionally, Mathematics teachers had to do some planning and meetings among themselves every week. In the room she also mentioned about ceremony of 10th November. Theme was "Atatürk and Peace". She asked for new ideas and tried to arrange some guest speakers for that day.

By the time in her break time she helped two students by explaining a geometry problem. She did not solve the problem directly, asked questions and wanted the students to see what would be the next step. Also two of the Mathematics teachers were discussing a problem about functions. She listened both of them and shared her own ideas. Then they began to talk about curriculum and discussed what could be done for next lessons. They also shared their observations about a student but first she shut the room's door.

After lunch, she coordinated which classrooms would be used in some lessons by talking on the telephone. She made her materials ready. We observed one more lesson. Also we talked to other Mathematics teachers. There was a peaceful environment both in Mathematics Teachers' Room and the whole school. After all of those she took us in a different classroom and asked how our day was. She listened us carefully and shared her ideas. She informed us about students and university entrance exam. Especially the 12th grade students' behaviors' and classes. There were four classes for 12th grade students. The first class was decided according to students' academic success in Maths, she explained.

At the end of the day she advised us what we should do to be a good teacher. Then she said a lovely "goodbye" to us.

Conclusion

The purpose of this article was to explain my first impression and observations in a high school. I learned about Mathematics teachers and their daily routine. Also I imagined myself as a Mathematics teacher. I thought about what I should do as a student-teacher during my school experience period.

"A Bilkent student does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do. On my honor, as a Bilkent student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work."

Gülhan Can

Name or signature of student
