CASE STUDY

An Amazing Student Council

Prey Chhouk Junior High School was established in 2006. The school is located in Pouk District of Siem Reap Province. It is situated west of Siem Reap town and takes about 30 minutes drive from the province. In January of 2006, back then, there was only one building with five classrooms and a toilet. Later, another two-story building with another ten classrooms was built. Mr. Vun Voeun, the school director, wanted his school to become more child friendly and so applied to the IBEC Project when the project started in 2010. Prior to working with IBEC, the teaching staff had only heard about student councils, but did not understand its main objectives or how to run them. In fact, the school created a student council body in accordance with the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport guidelines, but in practice, the council itself never attempted to call for any meetings or initiate its own plans of how to improve the school learning environment. Back then, they only did what they were told.

After becoming an IBEC partner, the school director and a supervising teacher who now works closely with the student council were called to attend a training workshop on how to build an effective student council. The workshop covered how students should select their officers, organize the structure, and delegate roles and duties to different officers. They also studied how conduct effective meetings, write reports, make plans, and manage budgets.

From this starting point, Mr. Um Nun, the supervising teacher, and the school director tried to encourage student council members to participate in all student council activities. He guided them to learn how to work together and help one another. Now, the student council at Prey Chhouk is capable of running its own meetings, making their monthly and yearly plans, and delegating roles and responsibilities to each member.

The IBEC Project seeks to promote better educated youth with increased access to a quality and relevant basic education through an approach that emphasizes holistic programming, stakeholder-driven development, and improved educational relevance and management. To learn more, visit www.ibec.worlded.org

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