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DEVELOPING A STUDENT ATTENDANCE RECORD SYSTEM FACILITATES FOR CLASS TEACHERS TO MAKE EVALUATION

Munirah Mokhtar¹, M. Irwan^{2*,} Mohd Najib Husain³ *Corresponding Author

^{1,3}Department of Built Environment Studies and Technology,
Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Surveying, Universiti Teknologi MARA,
Perak Branch, 32610 Seri Iskandar, Perak, Malaysia
²Sekolah Menengah Iskandar Shah, 32800 Parit, Perak

munirah@uitm.uitm.edu *mirwan@moe.edu.my najib1979@uitm.edu.my

Abstract

This research took a different approach on students when introducing the use of a new attendance recording system to record student attendance. The problem statement highlights for previously the class teacher had a problem calculating the attendance of class students on a monthly basis. The workload of classroom teachers is increasing due to the many things that need to be recorded as a classroom teacher. The system that will be developed can help class teachers to record the first warning, second and then further action without having to calculate manually. The method introduced in this research is to develop a new system to support the existing system. Data of students from one school in Central Perak will be used as a study to obtain the results and then can be used for other schools in Malaysia. As a result, classroom teachers are able to generate attendance records for each of their students accurately, quickly and efficiently. The student report that can be generated will be used as evidence to be kept by the school administration and shown to the student's parents. This study helps the community, especially on behalf of teachers and school administration; it is very beneficial to them.

Keywords: recording system, classroom teacher, Central Perak, schools, community

INTRODUCTION

This paper has presented the design and development of a student attendance management system is critical to fulfil the administration of school students The traditional scenario of pursuing student attendance in the classroom is done by compelling the students to physically mark the attendance slip that goes around the classroom while a course teacher is delivering the class. For example, a course teacher with a general class may notice the bother of having the attendance slip being passed around the class and the physical marking of attendance by students are repressive and no doubt occupy them from instructing and getting complete consideration from the students. The main focus of this paper is to introduce an attendance record system. The main benefits of this system is that the teacher can get a computed percentage, print copies with details of attendance information, save data in a phone database, as well as save data to a remote server database which ensures that the information will never be lost, and able to use the data whenever needed. In every organisation, one of the trusts that exist between the employers towards their employees is their attendance. Attendance is a symbolic representation that could be a benchmark to the higher authority to assess their staffs' commitment toward their job. This scenario is similar to any organisation, such as the educational system. In this case, the teacher will play a role as the higher authority, whereas the students will be his/her subordinates. The decision-making system used today is based on the conventional method, and it slows down as well as needs each teacher in the school to make reports for their part, and requires careful preparation, which will reduce the rate the effectiveness of decisions made due to the delay in receiving reports from teachers. Based on the current system, for the co-curricular part, teachers will enter student scores into a file manually and then process data into a report format. The current system is a storage system, which is desktop-based, rather than in a web-based form. It also does not have the ability to process entire data automatically and display the results directly.

The whole process of distributing a thorough decision is time consuming and requires a high cost. Moreover, when an immediate decision needs to be made, the school administration has no latest information, and only makes decisions based on information available in their storage. This will make it difficult for the administration to make the best decision for a desperate situation. This hinders the exertions of the school administration to make decisions and choices in a short time.

Co-curricular is a system of education educated out of the classroom, which encourages sustainable obligation to educational outcomes. Therefore, an online application, or also known as the web application, is introduced to advance the current co-curricular management system of a school. The national curriculum is an educational programme that contains curriculum and co-curricular activities that cover all knowledge, skills, norms, values, cultural elements, and beliefs to help a student's development physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally as well as to inspire and enhance moral values.

LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Abdul Rahman and Abu Bakar (2019), the co-curricular scoring process was based on the amount of activity coupons collected by students in the co-curricular activity card and the scoring process was done manually. The use of extracurricular activity cards creates problems such as increased costs, loss of coupons and activity cards, theft of activity cards and makes it difficult for students to monitor their achievements from time to time throughout their studies.

Systems that provide fantastic presentation of data with slow retrieval or unwieldy data management are not useful. The same is true for systems that provide excellent data management and access but poor data presentation. Increased awareness of disciplinary problems such as the above, requires parties the school investigates the causes and consequences of discipline problems, as well as identifying strategies for reduce the problem (Ghani et al., 2017).

Soewito et al., (2015) proposed an attendance system using fingerprint and GPS technology through a smartphone. The system is time-consuming as it uses fingerprint technology. The system is able to collect data but cannot generate .pdf or .xlsx files. Furthermore, Zhu (2006) stated in their study that fingerprint scanners come with many advantages, including ease of use, permanent, unique, good anti-fake mechanism, and are increasingly recognised by many people. The technology behind this mechanism is biometric recognition. In higher learning institutions such as universities, attendance is made compulsory for every student in order for them to understand the subject matter taught in class. With the

existence of the fingerprint scanner, it has been made easy for educators, such as lecturers to record student attendance.

Zainal (2014) stated that most universities in Malaysia have attendance systems that can be easily manipulated. As proof to this fact, imagine if in each class, a lecturer has to pass the attendance list, which is printed on a paper, to the students to record their attendance. In this situation, the student only needs to fill out the attendance form with their signature. However, some of the students might imitate their friends' signatures even though they are absent. Most universities have barring procedures which exclude students from taking the examination if their attendance record is less than 80%. One of the solutions is to call out the student's name to mark their attendance. Nevertheless, this approach is very time consuming.

The amount of time required to implement a system is a major consideration in choosing whether to build or buy a data system. Developed locally, implementation of a data warehouse with reporting and analysis capabilities often takes years, while most commercial vendors promise an established (i.e., running and useful) product in a matter of months. Competent commercial vendors can usually bring practical experience and specialised staffing, and thus can often get a system established and functional much faster than school personnel can when building it themselves. This is not a criticism of local school technology personnel; it merely reflects the efficiency advantages when an organisation or business specialises in a particular product and set of processes. The best route to rapid implementation is one of the important choices a school system faces in launching such a system, and it is beneficial to know that there are multiple options available to achieve this objective.

METHODOLOGY

Figure 1.0 shows the proposed solution of the student attendance system where a class teacher takes attendance via a database, then the application processes the data and the teacher can save the data in the web server as well as a phone server. The remaining part of this paper is organised as follows. The process of system analysis aims to study an existing system to entirely design a new system. System analysis is performed to achieve two aims, namely to understand the process or the system clearly. This will assist in the new system design. System analysis will help to identify the problems in the existing system; therefore, this will help to know the inefficiency reasons.

Testing the database is important in order to find errors, which might affect the system reliability, consistency, performance, and security. Database testing involves the retrieval of information from the database by the desktop application or web. It assists in evaluating the system against the requirements specified by the user. Data in the user interface should be matched as per the records stored in the database. The proposed system uses PHP to implement the database. The model's co-curricular management system is used to broaden this project. The model consists of five phases starting with data requirements. The first phase is the data requirement phase. The data requirements for this project are analysed. The second phase is the system design phase, where the interfaces and the details in the application are designed according to specific requirements from the previous manual form of the co-curriculum. The third phase is the implementation process and continues with the system testing phase. The last phase is maintenance, where any difficulties occurred in the testing phase will be resolved.



Figure 1

Research Methodology Flowchart

RESULTS

The assessment of the school's co-curricular management system is a study conducted on co-curricular management in schools. Results of previous studies found that existing cocurricular management cannot be implemented smoothly and systematically. Therefore, a system that is able to assist co-curricular management in this school will be developed in the near future. Co-curricular management at the school level is still a problem and the burden rests on teachers who have so far borne many responsibilities besides educating students. This leads to the implementation of co-curriculum in schools, which is far behind when compared to academic curriculum. Therefore, awareness should arise about the importance of more efficient co-curricular management so that it can be fully implemented.

Every school, whether in secondary school or in primary school, has co-curricular activities that must be contributed by students. Each student is obliged to be a member of at least one of three bodies, i.e., uniformed body teams, clubs, and associations. Each student will also be provided with an attendance record book for co-curricular activities and co-curricular assessment record books.

All record books are required to be brought along at each meeting of such activities. Due to imperfect and unsystematic aspects of management, without using a system capable of integrating such management processes, co-curricular management cannot be implemented effectively and efficiently. The effects of ineffective and inefficient co-curricular management will have an impact on holistically assessing student achievement.

Real and efficient co-curricular management can be applied through monitoring and informal access to information or data related to the students as well as the course of each major co-curricular activity in school. Lack of a smooth and effective management process, such as monitoring, could not be carried out as efficiently as possible. Therefore, a drastic change to current processes, such as changing from manual to digital handling of co-curricular management through an online application needs to be implemented.

CONCLUSION

This preliminary pilot study shows that the system management application is considered to assist teachers in Malaysia, especially in secondary schools for tracking cocurricular activities record by displaying the information on the application and helping teachers to make reports on the co-curricular activities by automatically generating the cocurriculum data dashboard. Computerising classroom attendance tracking has many advantages over the old system. Data from classrooms can easily be transformed into databases for possible future analysis or usage. The proposed system will also help in generating the defaulters list on its own and send emails to those students whose attendance are below the required amount. Previous co-curriculum records were done manually and not so effective for teachers. The expected outcome of this project is to develop a fully functional application for managing the school co-curriculum in Malaysia. The implication of this project is to improve the current co-curricular management system through an online application.

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