
Self-Development by Exploring The Talent Interests of Students of SMK Neg.2 Medan

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Abstract

When choosing a major, school students need to know their interests and talents. Choosing the right major will provide maximum learning development. So that students are able to master the curriculum provided based on the major they are following. And a student in the future can work in the field of his interest according to his abilities, interests and talents. It is also important for the future of students to explore knowledge skills

Keywords: *Interests, Talents, Majors, Extracurricular*

INTRODUCTION

Learning, maximizing oneself and channeling hobbies in areas of interest are things that are very enjoyable for everyone. However, sometimes students do not understand their hobbies, interests and talents. (Indah Ayu Anggraini, et.al., 2020) This often also causes students to end up choosing the wrong school major or even choosing the wrong extracurricular which can have fatal consequences for their future. (Febi Putri Nuri, et.al., 2016)

Mistakes in taking majors and extracurricular that are not in accordance with their specialization usually occur due to several factors such as following friends because friends take one of the extracurricular so that the student has friends in that extracurricular, it could also be that the student ends up taking a major where the major he is taking is currently popular or various factors others such as demands from parents or demands from people around them. Developing interests and talents aims to ensure that someone learns or in the future can work in a field that they are interested in and in accordance with their abilities, interests and talents so that they can develop the capability to learn and work optimally with enthusiasm. (Rian Barialdi, et.al., 2022)

According to M. Ngalm Purwanto (According to the Educational Psychology Book) the word talent is closer in definition to aptitude which means innate ability, which concerns certain abilities and potential possessed by a person. Talent and interest are psychological elements that really determine the success of education, so all elements involved in education should be able to guarantee equal distribution of educational opportunities, improve the quality and relevance and efficiency of educational management. (Rahmah Utamy, et. al., 2020) Developing interests and talents aims to ensure that a student can later work in the field of interest according to his or her abilities, interests and talents. (Ina Magdalena, et.al., 2020) So that they can develop their abilities to learn and work optimally. This is also what makes developing interests and talents at school very important for students' futures. The main thing in requiring students' talents to be developed is for the sake of the students' own future. Because students are the nation's successors, who must be nurtured, guided and educated optimally so that they are able to become the nation's successors who are honest, trustworthy and also intellectual. (Siti Humaeroh, et al., 2021) In order to achieve all of this, it is also necessary to

test students' interests and talents, where from the results of this test students' interests and talents will be maximized by the school program. (Heru Sriyono, 2017) This school program can be a forum for students to develop their interests and talents. The results of this test can also be a reference for them to choose majors in college and majors that suit the student's interests and talents.

SMK Negeri 2 Medan is a Vocational School that focuses on Engineering majors. Students studying at SMK Negeri 2 Medan in various departments still have not achieved the grades expected by the school. Where from the learning results there are still some students who get unsatisfactory results. It is possible to see from the results of the student's grades whether the major chosen by the student is appropriate or not to fulfill the student's interests and talents. Because the target that the school wants to achieve is that students who major in engineering are expected to become alumni who are ready to use in society in the future.

RESEARCH METHODS

This Community Service activity was attended by 20 Class 2 (two) school students. The implementation of the activity "Self Development by Exploring the Interests and Talents of Students at SMK Negeri 2 Medan" is carried out in three stages: The first stage is the initial stage (preparation), the second stage (core activities), the third stage (the final stage is the development of program sustainability, namely:

1. The Initial Stage is the initial preparatory activities carried out by the service team which includes several activities. First, carry out a socialization visit to the partner school of SMK Negeri 2 Medan which is located at Jl. STM No. 12A Sitirejo II District. Medan Sandpaper Medan City. During the visit, the service team interacted directly with the Deputy Principal for Curriculum to convey technical matters, namely permits and the purpose of implementing the service program to the community. Second, prepare administrative requirements and coordinate with the Medan Area University LP2M (Institute for Research and Community Service). Third, make a second visit to look for problems faced using the teacher interview method so that several problems from partners are obtained. fourth, designing solutions to the problems that have been obtained comprehensively.
2. The second stage is the core activity, namely the implementation of service activities that have been well designed, namely activities in the form of education using presentation and discussion methods. First, the presentation in the form of modules and PPT contains knowledge about interests, talents and knowledge in the field of engineering studies. Giving and explaining presentations by the Service Team. Second, discussion, namely by asking students of SMK Negeri 2 Medan about the material presented. The third evaluation of this activity was carried out by distributing questionnaires to students of SMK Negeri 2 Medan to see the positive impact given to the school through this community service.
3. The third stage, namely the final stage, namely developing program sustainability, namely all aspects of activities by making conclusions from the results of activities, namely in the form of videos uploaded to YouTube (https://youtu.be/nIIIvPd_XeA?si=whKeXGkfVcBSNuyf), research reports.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The opening of the Community Service program implementation activities by the Deputy Principal as shown in Figure 1.

As for the delivery of the first material by resource person 1, see Figure 2. And the material given in talent interest is as follows:

- Definition of interest
 - Interest can be defined as a person's feeling of interest in something which gives rise to a strong desire and urge to do that thing.
- Definition of Talent
 - Talent can be defined as an innate skill or intelligence that a person has since he was born.
- Each type and examples
 - Vocational interests are interests in fields of work.
 - Professional interests are interests in the fields of science, art and social welfare.
 - Commercial interests are interests in the fields of work, accounting, business, advertising, secretarial work and buying and selling.
 - Interest in physical activities, namely interest in mechanics and other outside activities.
 - Avocational interest is an interest in something that is done to obtain satisfaction or is done based on a hobby.
 - General talent is an ability generally possessed by everyone. For example being able to think, being able to walk or move, being able to speak, and being able to read and write.
 - Special talent is a special ability that each person has and not everyone has it, such as verbal talent, numerical talent, scholastic talent, abstract language, mechanical talent, spatial relations talent, speed talent, clerical accuracy, and language talent.
- Differentiation of interests and talents.
- Similar interests and talents.

While the major material is:

- Distribution of majors in SMK Neg.2.
- Examples of field practice for students for each task





Presentation of material 2 by resource person 2, see Figure 3. The results of the activity show that the students who participated really understood the development of their talents and interests. What will they do in the future by following their interests and talents? Before implementing Community Service, almost all participants assumed that talent interests were not that important to guarantee their future. After training and information from resource persons, students took another talent interest test and the results showed that almost all students stated that talent interest was very important for developing their potential in the future. By exploring their interests and talents, students can determine their direction and goals, and of course they will feel comfortable with the choices they will make in the future and it will not be difficult to choose a major that suits their potential.



Figure 1. Opening of Community Service activities by the Deputy Principal of SMK Neg 2 Medan



Figure 2. Delivery of talent interest material



Figure 3 Major material

CONCLUSION

Community Service Activities to increase and develop interests and talents aim to ensure that students can work in the field of their interest in the future according to their abilities, interests and talents. So that they can develop their abilities to learn and work optimally. This is also what makes developing interests and talents at SMK Negeri 2 Medan very important for the future of students in exploring knowledge skills.

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