



## Efforts to overcome student absenteeism

Meilan Bayowe

SMP Negeri 2 Kota Tebing Tinggi, Sumatera Utara, Indonesia

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### ABSTRACT

This research was conducted based on the fact that there were many students who came late to school and the increasing number of student attendance. Therefore, the counseling teacher tries to reduce the tardiness and attendance of these students by conducting individual counseling services. To further maximize the expected results using an individual counseling approach electrical techniques. The subjects of this study were 5 students in class VIII. The benefits of the expected that students who are absent and late coming to school every day can increase the frequency of their absence to be present every day. besides that it can also be used as a reference in providing individual counseling services, and peers as observers. The results showed that the implementation of service actions was carried out in two cycles, where each cycle consisted of four stages, namely; (a) planning, (b) implementation, (c) observation, and (d) reflection. After analyzing the results after the implementation of individual counseling with electrical techniques, there was a reduction in the frequency of absenteeism of class VIII students. From the results of the research, it is suggested that the counseling teacher should record and monitor students who are late coming to school, because there are still class teachers and counseling teachers who are indifferent to the students' indiscipline.

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### Corresponding Author:

Meilan Bayowe,

Guru BK

SMP Negeri 2 Kota Tebing Tinggi

Jalan Tuanku Imam Bonjol No.46, Kota Tebing Tinggi, Sumatera Utara 20632, Indonesia

Email: meymey.b@gmail.com

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Hellen (2005) explains that counseling is a guidance service that allows students or counsees to get direct face-to-face services (individually) with the guidance teacher in order to alleviate problems (S. A. Lubis et al., 2022)(L. Lubis et al., 2021)(Bebasari et al., 2022)(Wahidah et al., 2019). Holipah (2011) explains that the individual counseling process has an effect on improving student attitudes by interacting over a period of time (Meyers et al., 2015).

Gibson, et al (in Rahman, 2003) explain eight goals of individual counseling, namely: developmental goals, prevention goals, improvement goals, investigation goals, reinforcement goals, cognitive goals, physiological goals, and psychological goals (Kent et al., 2015). Then Tohirin (2005) explains that there are five principles, namely: Azas confidentiality, Azas voluntariness, Azas openness, Azas present, Azas independence. Hamalik (1983) suggests "how to learn is the learning activities carried out in learning something" meaning activities that should be carried out in a learning situation, this activity is referred to both in face-to-face activities and in self-study (Yusny et al., 2021)(Kassymova et al., 2021).

Counseling services in schools are an effort to help students in the development of personal life, social, learning activities and career planning and development (Galassi, 2017)(Gueldner et al., 2020). Counseling services facilitate the development of students individually in groups or classically according to their needs, potential, talents, developmental interests, conditions and opportunities(Cross & Cross, 2021)(Güçyeter et al., 2017). This service also helps overcome weaknesses and obstacles and problems faced by students. As well as supporting activities that include instrumentation applications, data collection, case conferences, home visits, literature display and case handover(Wahab & Iskandar, 2020).

One of the tasks of schools as educational institutions is to create the widest possible opportunity for students to develop themselves as optimally as possible in accordance with the existing environmental situation(Simamora, 2020)(Kibaru, 2018). Various efforts have been made to improve student learning achievement, such as improving the curriculum, completing learning facilities, increasing teacher competence and so on to answer what is mandated in the National Education System Law(Reimers & Chung, 2019)(Baharin et al., 2018). However, these efforts do not mean much if they are not accompanied by high enthusiasm/motivation to learn from students as learning subjects(Crăciun & Bunoiu, 2019). Various factors can influence student learning success. Suryabrata (1989) classifies these factors into two, namely internal and external factors. Some of these factors affect directly and some affect indirectly(Izci, 2016)(Ding et al., 2018).

Based on the author's observations at the school where the author is assigned, the students' learning conditions are relatively not conducive, this can be seen from the high percentage of student absences. In addition, it also has an impact on the low presentation seen from student learning outcomes(Cheng et al., 2019)(Van Alten et al., 2019). During the teaching and learning process activities, all students in class VIII should be present according to the predetermined schedule, but in reality in the field of 26 students in class VIII, five people were recorded as often leaving the class even without information (absent). For more details of these problems can be seen in the table below which describes the attendance of the students concerned in class VIII.

Table 1. Student Attendance Data Set VIII

No	Inisial	Kehadiran				
		S	I	A	T	C
1	Ad	12	2	8	19	
2	Tr	3		5	10	
3	Pu		1	3	4	
4	Da	4		19	7	
5	As	7	2	7	8	

Based on table 1 above, it can be seen that student attendance is still relatively low. Students who are absent without information are the largest with a frequency of 18 times in one semester. Furthermore, the frequency of student tardiness needs special attention. So that this problem is of interest to the author to study this problem in more depth. This gap must be addressed immediately, because if no action is taken it will have a negative impact on students, among others; students will miss a lot of lessons, arise even in learning, low learning outcomes, follow remedial programs and students will stay in class.

Based on this description, when associated with the problems that occur in class VIII, it is hoped that counseling services can minimize existing problems and enable increased student learning outcomes. problem restrictions, the formulation of research problems is as follows: How is the process of increasing the attendance of VIII grade students by using individual counseling services electrical techniques. This study aims to increase the attendance of 8th grade students by using individual counseling services using electrical techniques.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

The research model used is the Lewin model the components are(Burnes, 2020); 1) Planning, in this stage the researcher explains what, why, when, where, by whom, and how the action is carried out. 2)

Actuating, which is the implementation or application of the contents of the design. 3) Observing, observation activities are carried out to observe the activities of children and teachers during the service process. 4) Reflecting, formulating things that have not and have been done based on the results of observation and evaluation (Bergner et al., 2019) (Boateng et al., 2018) (Goldstein et al., 2017).

The research was conducted in class VIII with 26 students consisting of 18 girls and 8 boys. The purpose of this study was to improve and increase student attendance. Judging from how to obtain data, the type of research data is primary data or data collected directly from data sources (Walliman, 2021) (Moser & Korstjens, 2018). Meanwhile, judging from the nature of the data, this research data is quantitative data and or data in the form of numbers. In accordance with the research problem, the data needed in this study are: (1) the results of student attendance in class, (2) teacher teaching activities, (3) student learning activities.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

#### Orientation

As a result of the orientation conducted before entering the first cycle, various problems were found based on the phenomena seen in students. A summary of the problems included:

- 1) Students often leave during class time.
- 2) Students did not want to ask questions when they did not understand the material
- 3) Students often talk to their friends when the teacher explains the lesson.
- 4) The attendance of students in class VIII is still relatively low.
- 5) Student learning outcomes are low.

The problems above greatly disrupt the learning process. Low student attendance has an impact on student learning outcomes.

#### Cycle-I

The initial activities of this cycle were carried out based on observations that had been made, which showed several problems that were very waiting for the learning process and resulted in low student learning outcomes. Based on the problems that arise, an action is designed with individual counseling with electrical techniques to improve student attendance.

Then in this activity, preparation activities are carried out, the planning that is prepared is flexible according to developments that occur. Then cycle 1 was carried out with one meeting. based on the actions that have been taken, research data from cycle one is obtained in the form of data derived from immediate assessment (laiseg,), observation sheets, attendance documentation.

Before analyzing the attendance data in cycle-I, researchers took the data obtained before the action or what is called pre-cycle data. The goal is to compare attendance data after being given action. After undergoing the individual counseling process, an immediate assessment (laiseg) is carried out with the aim of seeing what students get in counseling.

The results of attendance data one week after counseling in cycle I can be seen in the following table:

Table 2. Student Attendance after cycle 1

No	Inisial	Kehadiran				
		S	I	A	T	C
1	AP	-	-	1	-	-
2	AT	-	-	3	-	-
3	PA	-	-	1	-	-
4	RD	-	-	1	-	-
5	WA	-	-	-	-	-

After monitoring for one week after the counseling service in cycle 1, it was seen that the frequency of student absences began to decrease, only AT had a large number of absences. Overall, students' attendance in learning can be said to have increased.

Based on the activities carried out in cycle 1 and the acquisition of data that has been analyzed, it turns out that student attendance has not yet reached the expected target. There are still students

who have quite a lot of absences, namely AT. While the others have improved, although there are those who are absent with less frequency. Based on the results of the reflection, it is necessary to make some changes to improve attendance in cycle II. By considering the achievement of maximum goals in cycle II. By considering the achievement of maximum goals, several things will be done in cycle II, among others:

- 1) The researcher in the delivery stage will explain the principle of presence and openness to students, so that students share their difficulties.
- 2) Provide positive reinforcement to students who make changes in student attendance in learning. For this reason, it is necessary to make improvements from the results of cycle I to be implemented in cycle II.

Some of the planning carried out for the implementation of cycle II is based on the reflection carried out in cycle I, including carrying out the delivery stage by explaining the confidentiality and openness so that students tell the problems they are experiencing.

Basically, the implementation of cycle II is not much different from the previous cycle. Cycle II was also held once a meeting. The meeting was held in a special room between a counselor and a student who began by welcoming the student warmly, then explaining the meaning of counseling, the purpose of counseling and the principles of counseling.

From the analysis of student attendance obtained through class attendance, it is known that during cycle 1 there were still some students who had a high frequency of absence. Whereas in cycle 2, in general, all students have experienced an increase in attendance. So it can be said that there has been a change in students in terms of attendance to school learning activities.

Based on the activities that have been carried out in cycle 1, there are still some students who have a high frequency of absence. Whereas in cycle 2, in general, all students have experienced an increase in attendance. So it can be said that there has been a change in students in terms of attendance to learning activities at school.

Based on the activities carried out in cycle II and the acquisition of data that has been analyzed, it turns out that student attendance has reached the expected target. This is due to several things, including:

- 1) The client has openly conveyed the problem with the counselor.
- 2) The client has a good commitment to make behavior changes, especially to attend teaching and learning activities at school.
- 3) The guidance and counseling teacher/counselor continues to monitor the student's development continuously.
- 4) The guidance and counseling teacher continues to provide positive reinforcement for the behavior changes made by the student 4.

## Discussion

As explained in the background of the problem, of the five students who were used as research subjects, the level of absenteeism can be said to be high. This can be seen from the recap of absences that exist among research subjects who have a frequency of absences without explanation up to 19 times. Not only that, the frequency of tardiness is high with 19 times. This also has a negative impact on the learning process and results. Efforts that have been made previously have not succeeded in suppressing student absences. This is what encourages researchers to conduct individual counseling with electrical techniques in the hope of reducing student absences, especially students who are research subjects.

Through individual counseling services with electrical techniques, it can be seen the factors that cause students to often not attend learning in their classes, including students lacking physical and psychological readiness to take part in the teaching and learning process in class. The school system from morning to evening also makes students feel bored, sometimes if from home they are not ready to go to school, they finally decide not to attend.

Another factor that causes students to be frequently absent is that students do not match the way students learn with the teaching methods applied by some subject teachers. In connection with

this factor, the researcher suggests and the teacher's method of teaching. Furthermore, students should ask for material that is not understood during the teaching and learning process. In addition, researchers will conduct professional discussions with subject teachers, to be able to strive to choose learning methods by adjusting to students' learning styles.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research, the action that has been given in overcoming the absenteeism of Class VIII students is to use Counseling Services. At first, the frequency of student absenteeism can be said to be high. Obtained from the analysis of student attendance obtained through class attendance, it is known that when the service has not been carried out there are still among the students who have a high frequency of absence. Whereas in cycle 1, in general, all students have experienced an increase in attendance. So it can be said that there has been a change in students in terms of attendance to learning activities at school.

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