Prevalence Protocol for Attention to School Dropout (PPASD): Strategies To Promote the Permanence of Students in High School

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According to a UNICEF study in 2022, Brazil has around 2 million teenagers who have dropped High School before graduating. Shocked by these numbers, I started to think about what I could do to deal with this issue. I decided to visit some public schools on the outskirts of the city of São Paulo, and one element specifically caught my attention: the enrollment process. I noticed that the enrollment of students in High School is executed by the system, without the necessity for the presence of parents and students. After learning about this procedure, I realized that developing a new enrollment system could be a way of helping students to remain in school. Taking these observations into consideration, I developed the Prevalence Protocol in Attention to School Dropout (PPASD), which in addition to reworking the role of enrollment, allows to show, through an indicator, students with a tendency to drop out of the school. After applying a pilot questionnaire in schools to structure the indicator, as well as the disposition of them in four categories - social, economic, cultural, and health capital - I started the first simulation. In this school, the prevalence factor indicated a higher incidence of cultural capital. By establishing the comparison between this information and external evaluations of the school, I verified the efficiency of the indicator, considering that it also showed other problems corroborating to the dropout rates. Therefore, finding the risk factors of the schools enables the development of public policies to deal with school dropout.

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