MySchool Application as a Computer-mediated Communication for Parents, School, and Teachers

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Abstrak

Sekolah merupakan tempat yang sangat penting bagi setiap individu dan juga menjadi pusat utama generasi bangsa yang cerdas dimana proses belajar mengajar dilakukan secara terus menerus setiap hari. Dalam proses belajar mengajar, komunikasi antara orang tua dan sekolah memegang peranan yang sangat penting karena keberhasilan akademik siswa tidak lepas dari dukungan orang tua, saat ini orang tua dan sekolah biasanya membuat WhatsApp Groups (WAGs) untuk menjalin komunikasi yang tujuannya untuk mencari tahu tentang kegiatan siswa di sekolah seperti: absensi, nilai siswa, jadwal ujian, pengumuman penting, dan lain-lain. Apalagi, Pandemi Covid-19 menambah rentetan masalah yang harus segera diselesaikan dan segera dicari solusinya bersama. Untuk itu diperlukan suatu sistem untuk mengatasi permasalahan tersebut melalui pemanfaatan teknologi informasi dalam proses komunikasi antara orang tua dan sekolah. Aplikasi MySchool bertujuan untuk menyelesaikan masalah komunikasi antara orang tua, guru, dan sekolah, selain itu aplikasi ini juga bertujuan untuk mendukung sistem administrasi sekolah seperti SPP, informasi kegiatan sekolah, pengumuman penting, dan lain-lain. Aplikasi ini juga merupakan rangkaian solusi proses belajar mengajar kegiatan sekolah pada saat pandemi Covid-19 dan dengan optimalisasi dapat mengkonversi semua kegiatan menjadi serba digital. Tanggapan yang sangat positif seperti adanya aplikasi mobile sebagai alat komunikasi di sekolah memberikan hubungan yang efektif antara orang tua dan sekolah.

Kata kunci: Aplikasi MySchool, Komunikasi, Orang tua, Sekolah

Abstract

School is a very important place for every individual and also the primary center of a smart nation generation where the teaching and learning process is carried out continuously every day. In the teaching and learning process, communication between parents and schools plays a very important role because students' academic success cannot be separated from the support of their parents, currently parents and schools usually create WhatsApp Groups (WAGs) to establish communication whose purpose is to find out about activities students in school such as: attendance, student grades, exam schedule, important announcements, and others. Moreover, the Covid-19 Pandemic adds to the series of problems that must be resolved and immediately sought for solutions together. For this reason, a system is needed to overcome these problems through the use of information technology in the communication process between parents and schools. MySchool application aims to solve communication problems between parents, teachers, and schools, besides this application also aims to support the school administration system in such as tuition fees, information on school activities, important announcements, and others. This application is also a series of solutions for the teaching and learning processes of school activities during the Covid-19 pandemic and by optimizing it can convert all activities to be completely digital ones. The feedbacks were very positive like

having mobile app as a mean of communication at school provides effective relationship between parents and the school.

Keywords: MySchool Application, Communication, Parents, School

1. Introduction

School is a very important place for every child and at the same time the cradle of a generation of a smart nation where the teaching and learning process is carried out continuously every day. In such process, communication between parents and school plays a very important role because students' academic success is intertwined with the support of their parents in this case those who establish communication with the school by using especially Whatsapp Group (WAG) to build a firm communication whose purpose is to find out students' activities such as: student grades, exam schedule, important announcements and others. However, the communication process is still an issue due to several things such as:
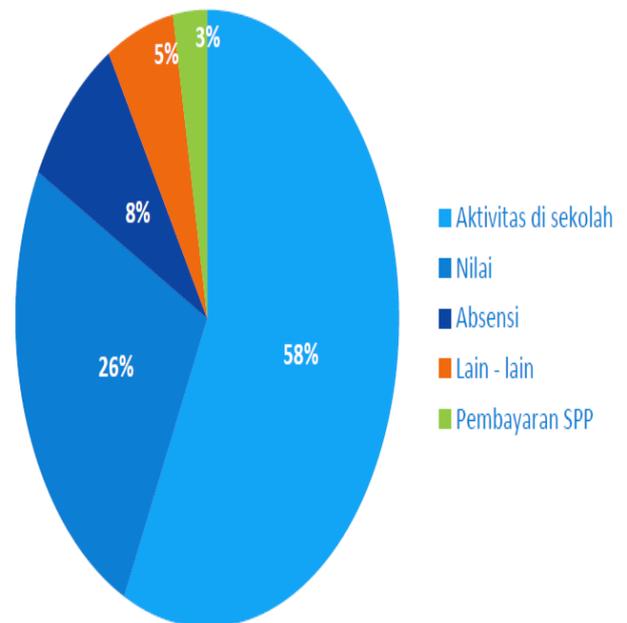
● Teachers have their problems in monitoring multiple students in multiple WAGs.

● Parents have many WAGs like office group, reunion group, hang out group, and others.

● School's policy in providing official information through written memos and how to send it particularly to parents.

With Covid – 19 pandemic problem is still around us, which the end of this issue is in vague, it is clear that this issue will adds a series of problems that must be finished and immediately to be found its solution together. As such, a system is needed to overcome these problems through the use of information technology in the communication process between parents and school. McQuail (2005) stated that computer-mediated communication that any human communication that occurs through the use of two or more electronic devices, thus, a system or application that connects people one from another could enhance communication further or deeper. The system's prototype will provide 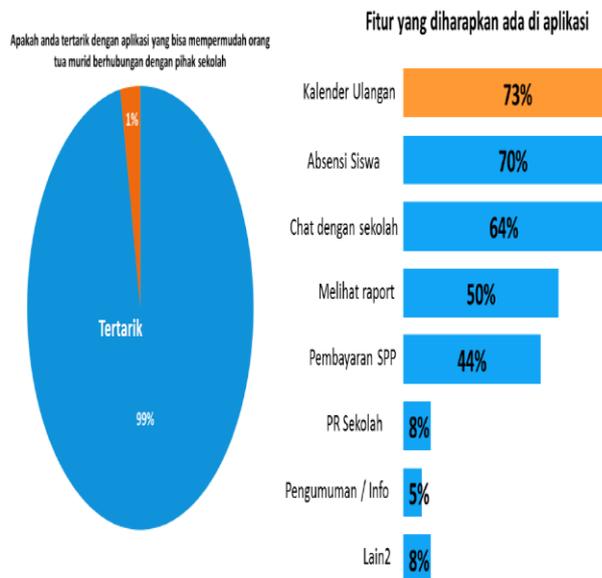complete informations wanted by parents and on the other hand the system will help school and teachers to administer school activities. And in the end the system is expected to be able to improve the quality of education and to produce a smarter generation.

2. Methodology

This type of research used in this study is quantitative one. This kind of research method is one type of research whose specifications are systematic, well-planned and clearly structured from the beginning until the making of the research design. The making of the prototype comes from early research result from 54 respondents with the question "What is the primary concern of parents of the students at school?" The result is 58% are paying attention to activities at school, 26% are paying attention to the grades, and the rest are paying attention to the attendance list and others.

The next question that the writer raised is "Are you interested with the application that make easy your communication (parents) with the school? And what features expected available on the application?" Next are the following answers:

Fitur yang diharapkan ada di aplikasi

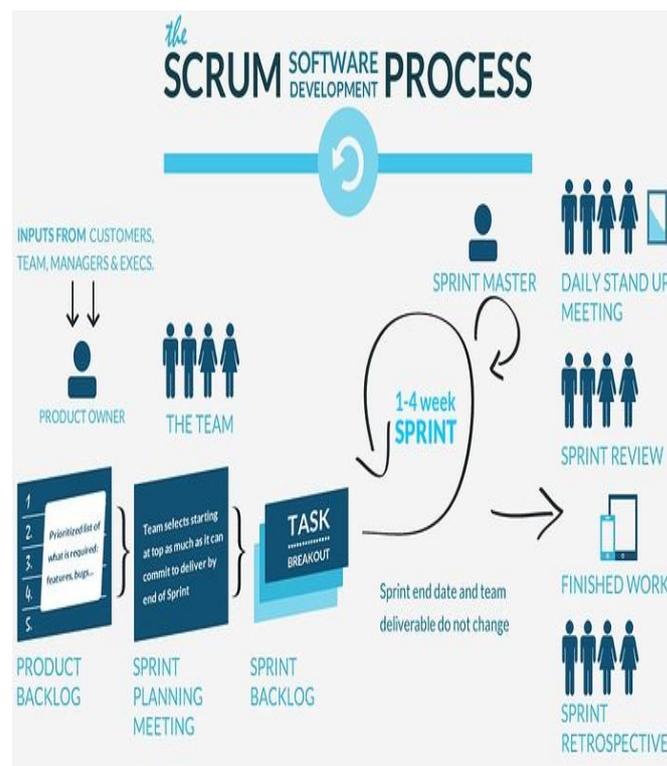| Feature	Percentage
Kalender Ulangan	73%
Absensi Siswa	70%
Chat dengan sekolah	64%
Melihat raport	50%
Pembayaran SPP	44%
PR Sekolah	8%
Pengumuman / Info	5%
Lain2	8%

99% respondents answered that they were interested and gave their inputs in this case the expected features/menus like mid-term calendar, students' attendance list, chat box with the school, tuition fee, home works, announcements, and others.

The writers then start to create the design for the output of this research which is MySchool application prototype that consists of 3 applications for 3 parties and they are parents, school and teachers.
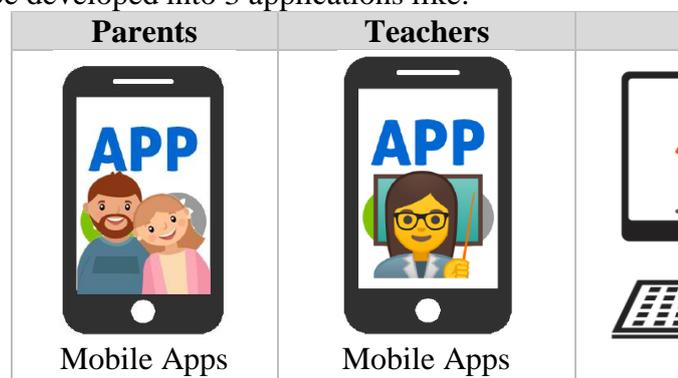
The prototyping was carried out using the SCRUM method, which is a software engineering method using the principles of the AGILE approach, which rests on the strength of team collaboration, additional products and an iterative process to achieve the final result. Scrum itself is not the only method that uses the AGILE approach.

The Scrum technique starts with a discussion of the project between the Product Owner and relevant stakeholders, then a Srum Master and Development Team are formed. The first step taken by the Scrum master is to create all the to-do lists which are also called User Stories, the User Stories are created in a media called Backlog which is pasted on the Task Board.
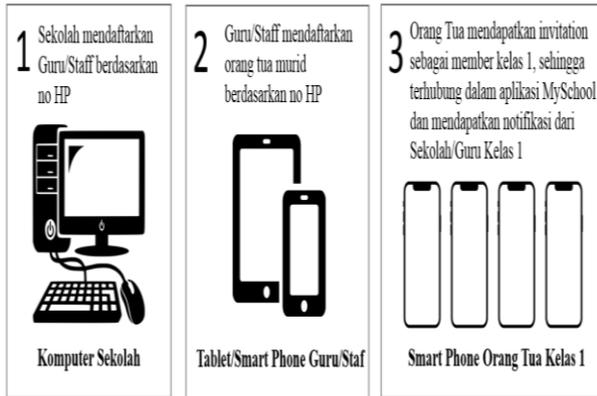
3. Results

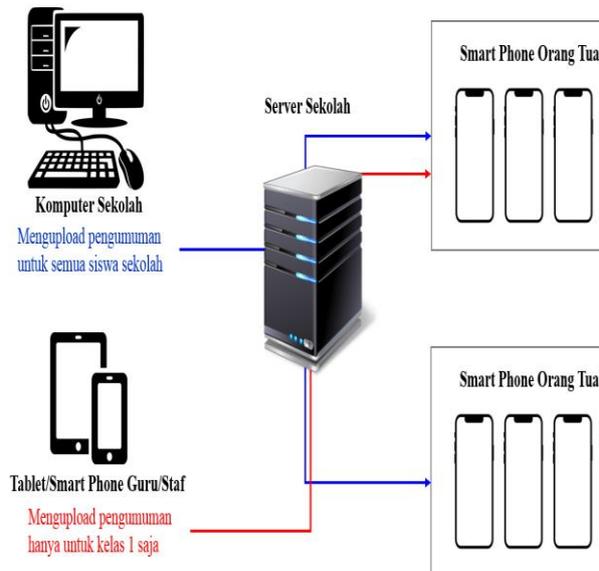MySchool application prototype then will be developed into 3 applications like:

Parents	Teachers	
Mobile Apps	Mobile Apps	

Before we go to the discussion on the application prototype, we would like to inform that the stages of the registration are as follows:

1. Sekolah mendaftarkan Guru/Staff berdasarkan no HP
Komputer Sekolah

2. Guru/Staff mendaftarkan orang tua murid berdasarkan no HP
Tablet/Smart Phone Guru/Staf

3. Orang Tua mendapatkan invitation sebagai member kelas 1, sehingga terhubung dalam aplikasi MySchool dan mendapatkan notifikasi dari Sekolah/Guru Kelas 1
Smart Phone Orang Tua Kelas 1

If we are already connected based on our registered cellphone numbers then the school, teachers, and parents can use the application and start to communicate to each other.
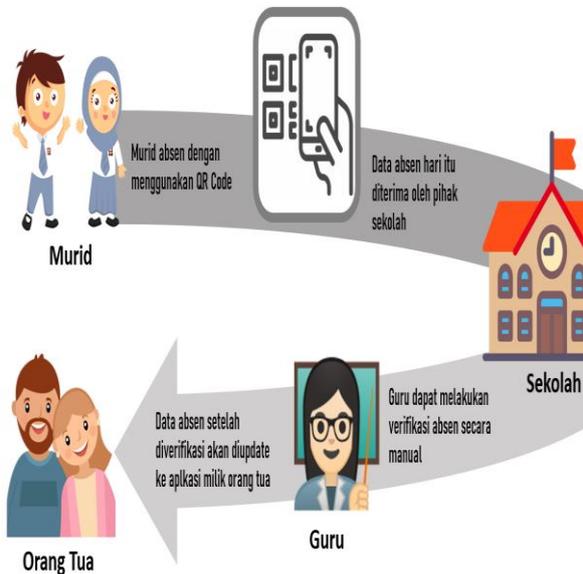
The following is the announcement scheme feature: the blue line is the school announcement for students/parents while the red line is the communication between first grade teachers with students/parents.

Features available on the application are:

Kalender:
Fitur ini berfungsi untuk melihat tanggal ujian siswa, jam masuk dan keluar siswa, serta acara di sekolah

Absensi:
Fitur ini berfungsi untuk melakukan absen jika pihak sekolah mengijinkan siswa untuk membawa smartphone, sekolah akan menyediakan tablet yang memuat QR Code dinamis (time stamp), siswa cukup melakukan scan QR Code.

Raport:
Fitur ini berfungsi untuk melihat raport siswa, hasil dari raport siswa juga bisa disimpan dalam bentuk pdf

SPP:
Fitur ini berfungsi untuk melihat tanggal, dan status pembayaran atau fasilitas auto-debet uang SPP (kerjasama dengan Bank)

Pengumuman:
Fitur ini berfungsi untuk melihat pengumuman dari sekolah untuk orang tua

Chat:
Fitur ini berfungsi untuk melakukan live chat dengan staf di sekolah (tata usaha, wali kelas, guru–guru lain)

The Design of Attendance Administration System on MySchool Application Version 2 (Phase 2)
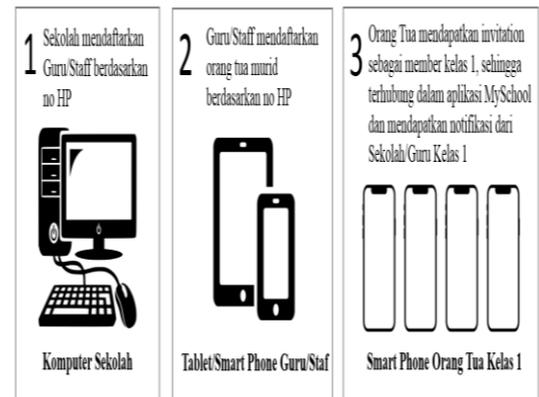

In the future, if this absent system is implemented, the school and teachers will be easier in terms of absent administration and parents can also check their child's attendance at school in real time.

With this automation, schools can be more productive in thinking about things that are strategic.
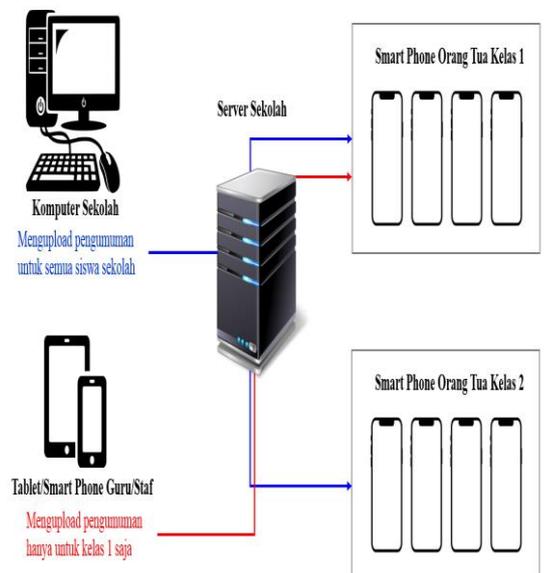
4. Finding and Discussion

MySchool application for school is a web-based one that can be operated through web browser such as Google Chrome, Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox and others. Through the application, the school can manage announcement, students' attendance, QR Code, payment recap report and managing staff list.

In order to communicate using the application, the school can follow steps as follows:

If parents, teachers, and schools are connected based on the registered cellphone number then they can use the application and communicate with each other.

The following is an example of an announcement-based scheme: the blue line is the school announcement for all students/parents, while the red one is the communication between the grade 1 teachers and the students/parents.

5. Conclusion

Effective communication has important elements in establishing fruitful relationships between parents and school particularly teachers. This study tried to understand parents'

perspective on having mobile app to communicate with school and/or teachers. This research also attempted to fill in the space of using mobile apps to contribute constructive communication between parents and school especially teachers. In this study explored the implications of using Myschool mobile app to make effective communication between parent and school primarily teachers. Based on this study, having mobile apps as a mean of communication created positive results among parents and teachers. According to survey report, the final conclusions are as follows:

• Having mobile app as a mean of communication at school provides effective relationship.
• The stream of information especially from teachers can be carried out via mobile app.
• It sets up cooperation between parents and school while they are utilize mobile app
• The progress of communication between parent and school primarily teachers can be constructed via mobile app
• Having mobile app as a mean of communication provide parental involvement.

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