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KEY WORD: STUDY/THE OPERATION OF ACADEMIC/SECONDARY SCHOOL CLUSTERS

KHAJITPHAN UTKHAM : A STUDY OF THE OPERATION OF ACADEMIC TASKS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL CLUSTERS, EDUCATIONAL REGION EIGHT. THESIS ADVISOR: ASSO.PROF. BOONMEE NENYOD, Ed.D., 182 PP. ISBN 974-582-711-8

The purposes of this research were to study the operation of academic tasks and problems of the operation of academic tasks of secondary school clusters, Educational Region Eight. Forty-eight cluster committee members were interviewed. The instruments used for data collection were interview and document analysis forms. The data were analyzed by using percentage.

Research findings were indicated as follows:

With regards to educational quality promotion guidelines and **maintaining** educational standard within school clusters, instructional quality promotion plans and principles were set by committee and subcommittee members also the implementation and follow-up guidelines, and the educational standard. In order to meet the above mentioned, personnel training were conducted including monitoring the implementation process.

Concerning the instructional evaluation process of schools within the school clusters, principles and guidelines were set by school clusters corresponded to the Ministry of Education's policies for every school within school clusters, and learning achievement was certified by school on behalf of school cluster.

Problems reported were: inappropriated policies regarding the school cluster needs, duties and responsibilities of school clusters assigned were too loose and without authority. Insufficient budget was also reported to be a problem.