

ABSTRACT

THESIS : High School Students' Attitude towards Learning and Teaching Management in Secondary Schools in Bangkok

BY : Miss Rungrawee Roogkate

DEGREE : Master of Arts (Social Development)

MAJOR : Social Development Management

ACADEMIC YEAR : 2000

The research was conducted for four purposes : first, to examine the attitude of high school students toward learning and teaching management in secondary schools in Bangkok ; second, to point out the factors related to their attitude ; third, to find out the extent of the high school students' knowledge about learning and teaching management in secondary schools ; and fourth, to identify the obstacles to learning and teaching management in secondary schools. The data were collected from 360 high school students (grades 10 – 12) of six secondary schools in Bangkok under the Formal Education Department, the Ministry of Education, during the academic year 2000. The subjects were selected by using the multi – stage sampling technique. The descriptive statistics to describe the data were percentage, arithmetic mean, and standard deviation. The hypothesis were tested by using the inferential statistics, i.e., Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient and Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis, at the 0.05 significant level.

The findings were briefly reported as follows :

1. The high school students under the study were found to have a moderately positive attitude toward the learning and teaching management, whither it was the overall attitude or the attitude toward each of the seven dimensions considered. These seven dimensions were study program planning,

class scheduling, class arrangement, teacher assignment, teaching materials, library and remedial classes.

2. The variable found to be positively related to the high school students' attitude toward learning and teaching management at the 0.05 level of significance was the extent of knowledge about it. In contrast, the variables that had a negative relationship with their attitude at the 0.05 level were time to travel to school and the number of students per class.

3. With regard to the knowledge of the high school students about the learning and teaching management, the students as a whole were found to have a good knowledge about this. When individual dimensions were considered, it was found that they had a good knowledge in two dimensions : the high school curriculum and the teaching and learning method at school.

4. The variables that could predict the students' attitude toward this matter were the knowledge of learning and teaching management in high school, the time to travel to school, and the number of students per class. All the three variables together could correctly predict the attitude of 4.52 percent of the students toward the learning and teaching management.

Recommendations

The findings revealed that the high school students were only moderately satisfied with the learning and teaching management at school. Therefore to improve this to a very satisfactory level, the schools were recommended to do the following :

1. Study program planning. A variety of elective courses that serve students' needs should be offered. Students should be given a chance to choose any subject they are interested or keen in.

2. Class scheduling.

2.1 In each day, they should be both difficult and easy subjects.

2.2 The teacher' office hours should be set to match the students' free time.

2.3 The learning sessions of all the days in the week should be more or less the same.

2.4 The learning sessions should come immediately one after another and in nearby classrooms.

3. Class arrangement. The students should be assigned to different classrooms on the basis of their intelligence. Each class should have not more than 35 students.

4. Teacher assignment. The schools should assign the right teacher to the right subject.

5. Teaching materials.

5.1 The Ministry of Education should prepare teaching materials that have modern contents.

5.2 The contents must be in details and be clearly explained covering all the knowledge the students at a particular year level must know.

5.3 The teacher should give some other books for references, too.

6. Library.

6.1 The circulation desk should be improved for its speed.

6.2 The library books should be modern and great in number. Also, a variety of books must be available to serve the needs of the library users.

7. Remedial classes. Close attention should be paid to the high school students with low grades. Those who failed the exams should be assigned to remedial classes that seriously upgrade their knowledge and ability.

8. The students should be more informed about the learning and teaching management at school, including the high school curriculum and teaching and learning methods.

9. The Ministry of Education should have a policy to have each school admit a higher proportion of students in the service area.

10. The schools should have enough teaching aids and equipment.

11. Activities that help relieve the students' stress should be held. A sports club is one of the examples.

If the schools can do all that are recommended, it is believed that they will be successful in effectively providing the students with knowledge, which is in accordance with the National Education Act of 1998.