

Vararath Niyomthai 2012: The Effect of Principal's Leadership and School Climate on Home-School-Community Collaboration and Trust in Private Schools, Bangkok Metropolitan. Doctor of Education (Educational Administration), Major Field: Educational Administration, Department of Education. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Winai Damsuwarn, Ph.D. 207 pages.

The purposes of this research were 1) to study relationship between principal's leadership along with school climate and trust in private schools, and 2) to study causal relationship of principal's leadership and school climate on home-school-community collaboration and trust in the schools. A sample of 511 was randomly selected from 4,981 teachers of the schools in Bangkok Metropolitan. The variables consisted of four latent variables which were principal's leadership, school climate, home-school-community collaboration, and trust in school. These latent variables were measured by 19 observed variables. The research instrument was a questionnaire constructed by the researcher. The data were analyzed employing descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation, Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA), and Structural Equation Model (SEM).

The research findings were as follows. 1) Principal's leadership and school climate were positively related to trust in the schools. 2) Principal's leadership and school climate had both direct and indirect effects, through home-school-community collaboration, on trust in the schools. These causal relationship model fitted the empirical data (Chi-square = 103.907,  $df = 99$ , P-value = 0.348, RMSEA = 0.009). The variables in the model accounted for 83.10 % of variance of trust in the schools. School climate had direct and indirect effects, through home-school-community collaboration, on trust in the schools. Although principal's leadership also had direct and indirect effects, through home-school-community collaboration, on trust in the schools, but the effect size was not significant at the level of 0.01.

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Thesis Advisor's signature