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Abstract

Education is an investment in human resources, especially Vocational Education. More Finances should be allocated to this field. If students fail to achieve or are dismissed, both capital and Education are wasted. The effect of dropping out on the minds of the students cannot be estimated.

The purpose of this research was to study cause for dropping out of student in Petchaboon Technical College from students' background and as viewed by drop out students. Questionnaire were given to students to collect the following data : reasons for dropping out; student opinions of teachers who teach general and vocational subjects; attitudes towards their field of study; social environment in college ; resource in the department; and the students' family.

The sample consisted of 330 Vocational Certificate students of all departments in Petchaboon Technical College who dropped out during the academic 1988-1990 without contacting the registrar's office.

The research instrument was a questionnaire with close-end and rating scale items. 330 questionnaires, 261 were returned. Data were analyzed by calculating percentages, arithmetic means and standard deviations.

The result showed that the majority of student to study based on the entranec examination but Industrial Tour department had either been ineligible to study in that field based on entranec examination and had taken. The drop-outs in Welding and Sheet metal; Home Economics and Industrial Tour departments had eligible and had not been eligible for their preferred field of study. Another major factor for drop-out was in adequate materials, tools and equipment for practice. Teachers did not have enough finite for guidance, and vocational knowledge did not apply to need life careers. Other reasons mentioned include : classrooms and workshops were inadequate ; students were not satisfied with their grade point average ; students viewed their peers as being of low calibre ; teacher was too much authority ; and stadium and sports equipment were poor.