

Abstract

The purpose of this research study was to find the needs of school library services of rural elementary school principals, teachers, and the Educational Promotion Board so that Khon Kaen University can provide them with proper assistance.

The data were gathered from books and other reading materials related to school library services, and from samples—255 principals or 25 percent of all elementary school principals in Khon Kaen, 1384 school teachers or 20 percent of all, from 1275 Educational Promotion Board members or 25 percent of all the board members of the same schools.

The results of the study revealed that out of the 255 elementary schools, only 67 schools had libraries. The sizes of the libraries ranged from 11-20 square meters. Approximately, each library consisted of 494 books, two items of journals, and one of the newspapers. There were not any journals in the 10 libraries; there were not any newspapers in 28 of the libraires. The personnel in charge of each library was a teacher taking the role of a librarian. Problems discovered in the study were: the libraries were too small; the reading materials were out-of-date; there were very few reading materials; there were not enough durable articles; and last but not least, the budget was small.

Suggestions proposed by the principals, teachers, and the Educational Promotion Board so as to correct the problems were that they wanted the government to support the school library

services. They wanted to have bigger libraries, sufficient and up-to-date reading materials, and qualified personnel who has enough knowledge in the field of library sciences to be responsible for library work and related jobs. Additionally, they suggested there be training programs for those teachers who have been working as librarians.