AN ASSESSMENT OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS RESPONSES TO CHANGE: A CASE STUDY IN LARI SUB-COUNTY: KIAMBU COUNTY.

By

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study was to interrogate change management responsiveness of secondary schools in Lari sub- County of Kiambu County. Secondary school administration has played a key role in most secondary school institutions throughout Kenya. These institutions are faced with various challenges as a result of national and global changes which hinder their continuity, relevance and success. It is thus prudent that the heads of these institutions embrace change and their responsiveness evolve from a standpoint of understanding the need for change and consequently putting structures in place to ensure urgent responsiveness. This enables institutions to achieve their obligations and objectives as set out by the ministry of education. The role of the principal as a leader is thus crucial for efficient realization.

The study sought to assess secondary schools responsiveness to change in Lari Sub- County of Kiambu County. The study adopted a descriptive study design. The study applied a sample size of 11 schools out of a population of 39 secondary schools in Lari Sub County. Survey questionnaires were administered to collect both quantitative and qualitative data. The data obtained was analyzed by use of Statistical Package for Social Sciences and presented using Microsoft Excel.

The study found that some schools had adopted ICT, though majority were not using it to teach the students. Secondly, majority of the schools were using outdated reading materials. In terms of laboratory equipment most of the schools had upgraded their laboratory equipment. The study revealed that most schools have inadequate financial and human resources thus impeding effective change management. This challenge was also highlighted by Scott (2003) as one of the challenges facing higher education in Sweden.

The study recommends that schools should implement more effective change management strategies. To enhance learning in Lari sub- county secondary schools, more funding is required for quality education and improvement in school performance. Participatory development is core to change management in secondary schools. All stakeholders are important in this process in one way or another.

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