



## MAINTENANCE CULTURE AND SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS EFFECTIVENESS IN OBUDU LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF CROSS RIVER STATE



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### **Abstract**

*The study was designed to examine maintenance culture and secondary school administrator's effectiveness in Obudu Local Government Area of Cross River State. To achieve the objectives of the study, two research questions and hypothesis were raised using classroom building and school library as the study independent sub- variables in relation to secondary school administrator's effectiveness in the school system. The ex-post facto research design was adopted for the study. The population of the study consists of 576 principals and teachers in the 30 existing public secondary schools in the study area. From the above population, 150 respondents were sampled for the study using stratified random sampling technique. The instrument for data collection was two self-structured questionnaire tagged: Maintenance Culture Questionnaire (MCQ)" and "Principal Administrative Effectiveness Scale (PAES). The data obtained from the questionnaire were analyzed using inferential statistics of Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient statistics to test the null hypotheses at 0.05 levels of significance. Based on the analysis, the concluded that both maintenance of classroom buildings and school library significantly relates to secondary school administrator's effectiveness in secondary schools.*

**Keywords:** Maintenance Culture, Administrators' Effectiveness.

### **Introduction**

Effective teaching/learning encounter in an educational institution especially in secondary schools is the priority of its administrator. Effectiveness in academic performance of students/pupils cannot be achieved in an educational institution where buildings and furniture are rendered to a state of dysfunctional use due to lack of maintenance. Adesina (2018) lend credence to the above when he asserts that the quality of education that our children received bears direct welcome to the availability of physical facilities and the overall atmosphere in which learning takes place. Maintenance of school infrastructure therefore becomes important in order to enhance effective administration, hence the major determinant factor of educational goals attainment is effective teaching/learning situation in classroom.

In line with this, Stones (2018) discovers in a survey of backwardness he carried out that backward children were to be found in great numbers in poor environments, as they were closely correlated with school goal attainment and measured intelligence. This assertion is in support of the fact that effective maintenance of school furniture ensures effective teaching and intellectual development of the children. Undeshi (2016) articulated that a good classroom should be spacious enough to accommodate items such as student's desks or lockers, teacher's chairs and tables and others. He went further to stressed that an ideal classroom should accommodate thirty to forty students to ease effective teaching and classroom management by the teachers.



In a study conducted by McGuire (2015) on class size and teachers perception of school administration; the continuing controversy in school system. The study adopted an ex-post facto research design with the sample size of 200 respondents through simple random sampling technique. The instrument for data collection was a questionnaire tagged: Class size and Students academic achievement Questionnaire (CSSAAQ). Information from this instrument were analyzed using one way analysis of variance (ANOVA) at 0.05 levels of significance. From the study result, it was concluded that large class promote negative teachers perception of school administration and low staff morale in the school system. On the dropout rate among large class and small class, the study revealed that nine out of ten reports reviewed, support lower dropout rate for small class and attendance statistics favored small class over the large class. Also Uko (2015) conducted a research on principal administrative skills and effective management of library facilities in Cross River State, Nigeria. A survey research design was adopted for the study. Simple random sampling techniques was used to select ten secondary schools with one school drawn from each of the ten political wards. Questionnaire and personal interview were used in data collection. Pearson product moment correlation statistical instrument was adopted in the analysis. The result of the study shows that effective management of library facilities is necessary in creating the enabling conducive environment for students and teachers to add to their knowledge. The study also shows that library is the center of information where student fortify and equip themselves with the basic education in the learning process. The study also shows that library is a place where students study after classroom and therefore, it should be properly managed for education to achieve its aims and objectives. Also Saad (2017) discovered that schools adequately provided with library facilities scored higher in their performance in the school certificate examination subjects. Library's resources should be planned and properly utilized in an effective manner to bring about efficient provision of quality and relevant education.

A well maintained school infrastructure provides avenue for students to psychologically and sociologically settle down for academic development instead of embarking on unrest due to poorly maintained infrastructure. Taiwo (2018) discovered that one major reason why students embark on unrest is because of lack of school infrastructure maintenance and students don't perform well academically when they embark on an incessant unrest. But maintenance of school infrastructure makes learning to become real to students and also serve as great assistance to the teacher in the school.

Administrators' effectiveness on the other hand refers to the ability of the school administrator/principals to carry out administrative tasks related to instructional management, internal relation, organizational management, students' performance and school community relations towards achieving the school objectives. Durosaro (2018) defined administrative effectiveness as the leader's ability to achieve desired results. He explained that how well he applies his/her skills and abilities in guiding and directing others determines whether he/she can meet those stated objectives effectively. Lancaster (2020) asserts that a principal is claimed to exhibit administrative effectiveness when he is capable of carrying out the assigned roles, such as focusing on modern instructional techniques, building a good community relation, plan and maintains school facilities, handle disciplinary cases with firmness, sharing decision making, sustaining time management techniques and supporting professional development for all staff members. The implication of the above to the present study is that for administrative effectiveness of principals in actualizing the goals of secondary education, there need for effective maintenance culture on the school building, equipment's and physical environment. Effective utilization of school plant requires knowledge, skills and experience in handling different facets of the school system. This calls on the ability of the principals to set objectives, supervise their usage, formulate plans for procurement and ensure actual management of available facilities, in order to achieve secondary schools set goals in general and academic performance of students in the school system.



### **Statement of the problem**

The Nigerian educational system has witnessed tremendous advancement especially in the increasing enrolment rate of students eager to receive formal education without recourse to planning and provision of school plants. It is pathetic to find students sitting on floors with broken desks being taught which are equivalent of death traps. This is because of poor construction or insensibly location of school building without due consideration to the topography of the land. Secondary school principals and teachers in Obudu local government area have little or no consideration for the effect the school plant would have on the teaching learning situation and for the achievement of the laid down educational goals. All the above scenario are traceable to poor funding of schools, poor school plant planning, poor maintenance culture, routine supervision and inadequate evaluation of school plant in the secondary school system. Meanwhile, many principals tend to be oblivious of the opportunities inherent in school partnerships in terms of the developmental prospects of the school system. This situation may hinder principal's administrative effectiveness in secondary schools. It is as a result of the above that necessitated this study to investigate maintenance culture and secondary school administrators effectiveness in Obudu Local Government Area of Cross River state?

### **Purpose of the study**

The purpose of this study was to investigate maintenance culture and secondary school administrator's effectiveness in secondary schools in Obudu Local Government Area of Cross River State. Specifically, the study sought to;

1. Examine maintenance of classroom buildings and secondary school administrator's effectiveness.
2. Access maintenance of school libraries and secondary school administrator's effectiveness.

### **Research questions**

The following questions were raised to guide the study;

1. In what way does maintenance of classroom building relates to secondary school administrators effectiveness?
2. How maintenance of school libraries does relates to secondary school administrators effectiveness?

### **Statement of Hypothesis**

The following null hypotheses were formulated to guide the study;

1. There is no significant relationship between classroom building and secondary school administrator's effectiveness.
2. There is no significant relationship between school libraries and secondary school administrator's effectiveness.

### **Methodology**

The study adopted ex-post facto research design with the total population of 576 teachers from the 30 secondary schools and 60 principals and their vice (Obudu Local Education Authority, 2022). From the above population, 50 principals and 100 teachers were sampled using stratified random sampling technique and purposive sampling technique. The basis for stratification was the ten (10) political wards in the local government area which was used to select the schools. Also purposive sampling technique was used to sample the teachers, which the researchers uses their discretion to select randomly teachers from each ward given the total sample size of 150 respondents for the study. Teachers were used to assess principal's administrative effectiveness while principals were used to assess maintenance culture variables such as classroom buildings and school. Instrument for data collection was two self-structured questionnaire titled: "Maintenance Culture Questionnaire (MCQ)"

and “Principal Administrative Effectiveness Scale (PAES). The instrument were subjected to face validity by three experts in measurement and evaluation and school administration for scrutiny. The experts made necessary corrections and the instrument was judged to measures the purpose for which it was designed. The questionnaires was divided into three parts. The first part was on demographic information of respondents. The second part of the instrument was a ten items questions based on the study independent variables. While the third section deals on principal administrative effectiveness questionnaire. Section two and three was rated on four (4) point rating scale of strongly agreed (SA), agree (A), strongly disagreed (SD), disagreed (D) for positive and the reverse was the case for the negative items respectively. The questionnaires were completed by respondents and all of them were correctly filled and returned to the research assistance in various schools and subsequently returned to the researcher for data analysis. To test the research hypotheses that were generated to guide the study, Pearson

Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was used at 0.05 level of significance.

Presentation of results

**Hypothesis one:** There is no significant relationship between classroom and administrative effectiveness of principals.

**Table 1**

Pearson Product Moment Correlation analysis of the relationship between classroom building and administrative effectiveness of principals. (N = 150)

| Variable                          | $\sum X$ | $\sum X^2$ | $\sum Y$ | $\sum XY$ | $r\text{-cal}$ |
|-----------------------------------|----------|------------|----------|-----------|----------------|
| Classroom building maintenance(x) | 1306     | 33043      |          |           |                |
| Administrative effectiveness (y)  | 33047    | 46450      |          |           |                |
|                                   |          |            | 38754    |           | *0.229*        |

\* Significant at 0.05; df = 148; critical r = 0.138.

The result of the analysis on the study variable which sought for the relationship between classroom building maintenance and administrative effectiveness of principals showed that the calculated value of 0.299 is greater than the critical r-value of 0.138 when tested at 0.05 level of significance with 148 degrees of freedom. This result depicts that there is significant relationship between classroom building and administrative effectiveness of principals in the school system. Thus, the null hypothesis which state that there is no significant relationship between classroom building and administrative effectiveness of principals was rejected and the alternate hypothesis replaced.

Hypothesis two: There is no significant relationship between school libraries and administrative effectiveness of principals.

**Table 2**

| Variable                                                                                                                   | $\sum X$ | $\sum X^2$ | $\sum Y$ | $\sum XY$ | $r\text{-cal}$ | Pears<br>on<br>Prod<br>uct<br>Mom<br>ent |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------|----------|-----------|----------------|------------------------------------------|
| School library maintenance (x)                                                                                             | 2306     | 28200      |          |           |                |                                          |
| Administrative effectiveness (y)                                                                                           | 33047    | 46465      |          | 34996     | *0.628*        |                                          |
| Correlation analysis of the relationship between school libraries and administrative effectiveness of principals (N = 150) |          |            |          |           |                |                                          |



\* Significant at 0.05; df = 158; critical  $r = 0.138$ .

The result of the analysis on the study variable which sought for the relationship between school libraries and administrative effectiveness of principals showed that the calculated value of 0.628 is greater than the critical  $r$ -value of 0.138 when tested at 0.05 levels of significance with 148 degrees of freedom. This result depicts that there is a significant relationship exist between school libraries maintenance and administrative effectiveness of principals. Thus, the null hypothesis which state that there is no significant relationship between school libraries and administrative effectiveness of principals was rejected and the alternate hypothesis accepted

### **Discussion of findings**

The finding of the first variable which sought for respondent's opinion on the relationship between classroom building maintenance and principals' administrative effectiveness in secondary schools in Obudu Local Government Area of Cross River State reveals a significant relationship between the two variables. This implies that there is a significant relationship between classroom buildings and principals' administrative effectiveness in secondary schools in the study area. This finding agrees with McGuire (2005) who concluded that large class promote negative teachers perception of school administration and low staff morale in the school system. On the dropout rate among large class and small class, the study revealed that nine out of ten reports reviewed, support lower dropout rate for small class and attendance statistics favored small class over the large class. Kemi (2009) also agreed that small class size strengthen interpersonal relationship between teachers and students and by extension creates a sense of commitments in the classroom teaching / learning situations. It was also, reported that small classes improved educational efficacy and discipline among students in secondary schools.

The finding of the second variable reveals a significant relationship between school library maintenance and principals' administrative effectiveness in secondary schools. The implication of this finding is that school library has a significant relationship with principal administrative effectiveness I secondary schools. This finding agree with Olutala (2007) who discovered that schools adequately provided with library facilities scored higher in their performance in the school certificate examination subjects. Library's resources should be planned and properly utilized in an effective manner to bring about efficient provision of quality and relevant education. Musan (2004) findings also agreed that out that lack of library facilities was one of the most serious problems standing in the way of achieving high educational standard in learning institutions. He added that the process of managing the library requires skills at various levels. The technical skill is acquired from educational training experience. It indicates the ability to use knowledge, method and techniques in the performance of library tasks.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the statistical analysis and the finding that emerged from the study, it was concluded that maintenance culture of school facilities has great impact on principals' administrative effectiveness in secondary schools in Obudu Local Government Area of Cross River State. More specifically, the study concluded that classroom buildings, school library, sport facilities and accommodation facilities are predictors of principals' administrative effectiveness in secondary schools in Obudu Local Government Area of Cross River State.

### **Recommendations**

Based on the findings of the study, the following were recommended:

- i. The principals' should ensures that classroom buildings are constructed based on recommended specification of school plant planners to provide ventilation.
- ii. The principals should also ensure that the school libraries are properly furnished and maintained for both teachers and students' usage.



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