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PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS' INVOLVEMENT IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION IN KABO LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF KANO STATE

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Abstract

The study examined the involvement of Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs) in primary school administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State. A descriptive survey design was used, with a sample size of 132 Head teachers using purposive sampling. The questionnaire for PTAs' involvement in primary school administration (QPTAIPSA) was used and validated by the two lectures in the department of early childhood and primary education, faculty of Education, kwara state university. The (QPTAIPSA) was subjected to trial testing to ensure reliability and a reliability index of 0.76 was obtained. The data ware analyzed using descriptive mean and inferential statistics (t-test), with a mean score of 2.50 as the base line. The study revealed that the school administration values the input and feedback provided by the PTA as well as involving the PTA in the development of long-term strategic plans for the school and also, revealed that the level of Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s Involvement in the Primary School Administration was low. However, the study revealed that there was no significant difference in the Parent Teachers Associations' involvement in the primary school administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State based on school type (t = .457; df = 130; p > 0.05). Expunge, on clusively the study revealed that the level of Parent Teachers Association's Involvement in the Primary School Administration was low. Therefore it was recommended that the Parent Teachers Associations' involvement should be improved upon by sensitizing parents on the importance of PTA and benefits they would drive from it by the primary school administrators. school administration should add more efforts in valuing the input and feedback provided by the PTA as well as involving them in the development of long term strategic plans for the school.

Keywords: Parent, Teachers, Association, Involvement, Administration

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INTRODUCTION

Primary education as the foundation and the first level of any education as well as the t key to the success or failure of the whole system. It is of 6 years duration which is given to children after nursery education. Primary school's education in Nigeria was facing many challenges, some of them include; shortage of classrooms, lack of professional teachers, inadequate funding among others. Based on these there is need for the various

stake holders like Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs) to be involved in the in primary school administration. Therefore, Parent Teachers Association is an Umbrella upon which parents and Teachers come together to discuss an important issues in relation to the development of their children's education and take decision at when due. However, parent teachers association is a voluntary association of parents and teachers in a particular school established for its development (Ugwulashi, 2012). Furthermore, Parents had been interested in the education of their wards. Their coming together as body came with introduction of western education in Nigeria in 1843. PTA as body got its roots from American where the National Congress of mother made their first National convention in 1877 (Tor- Anyiin, 2008).

Moreover, the aims of national PTA are very essential to be included to this study in order to encourage the PTA members to involve in the primary school administration effectively, some aims are highlighted below: (i) To provide platform for parents, guardians, sponsors and teachers of students of Nigerian Primary, Secondary and Tertiary educational institutions to meet, exchange views deeply to analyze issues, make recommendations, take and effectively pursue implementation of decisions on matters affecting education in Nigeria with the appropriate agencies; (ii) To co-operate with and support morally and financially the Federal, State and Local Governments, Ministries, Boards, Commissions and all other appropriate organizations, institutions and establishments of education to achieve high standard of academic performance, discipline, morality, service and integrity in Nigerian schools; (iii) To foster mutual understanding, harmonious relationship and cooperation among parents, guardians, sponsors, and teachers in the fulfillment of their common; (iv) To foster mutual understanding, harmonious relationship and cooperation among parents, guardians, sponsors, and teachers in the fulfillment of their common goal the welfare of the schools and the students therein;(v) To make for a healthy and sympathetic understanding of the policies and programmes of government and thus influence same to create suitable climate for the reception of the same;(vi) To ensure a suitable, uniform and high standard of discipline, both at home and at school; and (vii) To assist materially and otherwise in providing the schools with such additional requirements that will enable it carry out its educational functions adequately; and (viii) To assist in the proper and all-round development of the children physically morally, socially and mentally so that they grow to become useful and law-abiding members of the society (Abdullahi,2017).

Ugwulashi, (2012) highlighted some function of the PTAs as applicable to public school: (i) Promoting better acquaintances and healthy Working relations between teachers and parents; (ii) Serves as effective channel of communication between the school and community, (iii) Advise the school staff or the school committee on pressing education needs of the community as perceived by parents; (iv) Budgeting and preparation of financial statement of the school; (v) Raising and management of funds; (vi) Overseeing to the collection of funds and revenues as applicable and (vii). Authorizing and scrutinizing the disbursement of all funds Parent Teachers Association (PTA) helps in the development of school by meaningfully contributing to building of classrooms, hostels, library and many others activities. On the other hand, it makes parents shoulder responsibilities of the government by providing fund for running public schools after paying their taxes. In this circumstance, some primary school head teachers and Mistresses and community leaders have introduced Parents Teachers Associations (PTAs) to help in financing primary education.

According to the Olowonefa, (2022) Primary School Administration it is the process through which primary school head teacher plans organizes, coordinates, directs and controls the affairs and activities as well as the human, material and financial resources in the primary school maximally to accomplish the corporate goals of the primary school. However, Primary School administration can be considered as the process of implementing and Executing plans, policies, and programmes to achieve educational objectives(Ugochukwu, Adaobi&Vivian, 2021).Furthermore, The primary school administrator, is the person who is charged with the responsibility of implementing educational plans, programmes or policies in the school (National Teachers Institute and National Open University of Nigeria 2016). In a nutshell, primary school administration it can be referred to as aspect of management where head teacher as the head of school focuses on facilitating the realization of the stated objectives of a given organization through a systematic management of problems and careful utilization of scarce resources which include human and material resources. Similarly, Parent Teachers Association is a one of the voluntary organizations of Parents and teachers of a particular school.

However, the study was carried out by Mgbo (2003) on the system of management and funding of primary education in Enugu Education Zone. The major purpose of the study was to find out the factors militating against effective management and funding of primary education in Enugu Education Zone. The major findings of the study were that some problems against the effective management and funding of primary education include: but not limited to poor and inadequate accommodation for the increasing enrolment, insufficient supply of instructional materials, inadequate supervision and inspection of primary schools. Similarly, a study carried out by Onele andUzoma (2013) was an assessment on the extent of integrative funding for the effective implementation of Universal Basic Education (UBE) programme in Ebonyi State, Nigeria. The study also showed that local donor agencies contributed insignificantly to the effective implementation of UBE programme in Ebonyi State. Also, those international donor agencies contribute to a low extent in the provision of instructional materials, sports and health equipment, furniture and classroom blocks for

the implementation of UBE programme. All the above studies failed to carry out a research on parent teachers associations' Involvement. Based on this gap this study investigated the Parent Teachers Association (PTAs)'s Involvement in the Primary School administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State.

The school types focused by the researcher in this study were public and private schools and therefore used as moderating variable. However, Ednakanana (2015) investigated the influence of stakeholders' participation in primary school management on academic performance in Uringu Division, Meru County. The study also sought to assess the head teachers' management skills, teachers' participation, pupils' participation and parents' participation in primary school management on academic performance in Uringu Division. The study concludes that head teachers' managerial skills, teachers' participation, pupils' involvement and parents participation positively and significantly influence academic performance in public primary schools in Uringu division than those in private schools. From the review research in the above paragraph, it is evidence that school type influence parent teachers participation in primary school administration batter than the private schools.

Futhermore, Mgbo (2003) made an investigation on the system of management and funding of primary education, in his study it was revealed that private Schools participated better than those who are in public primary schools. However, from the review research in this paragraph, it is Evidence that school type influence parent teachers participation in private school batter than the public primary schools. This was the rationale for the inclusion of variable school type in this study in order to establish if there would be significant different in Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s Involvement in the Primary School Administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State based on School Type

Statement of the Problem

Parent-Teachers Association is an important association which parents and Teachers come together to discuss various issues in relation to the school's development and children's education. Many parents were not aware of the importance of parental involvement; as such create wide gaps between Teachers, school administrators and Government in Primary School Education. However, According to the Kano State Universal Basic Education Annual Report (2013) there are shortage of Instructional Materials, Equipment, Teachers and Overhead cost among others for the implementation of Primary Education. Furthermore, existing literature has captured a few efforts on the issue of Parents-Teachers Associations' Involvement in the Primary School Administration in Kano state. In addition, empirical evidence on Parental involvement in primary administration has been documented across the globe. According to the Olowonefa, (2022) there are many challenges facing the primary school education in Nigeria, some of them include; inadequate funding, shortage of professional teachers, inadequate infrastructural facilities, ineffective supervision, and lack of data to plan.

However, failure to carry out research on this problem may lead to the inadequate involvement of different stake holder like PTAs in to the primary schools as well as poor academic performance and achievement among the primary school pupils. Hence there is need to carry out study on Parent-Teachers' Involvement in the Administration of primary school in Kabo Local Government of Kano State.

Research Question

The one research question was raised to guide the study

What is the level of Parent Teachers Associations (PTA)?

Research Hypothesis

The one Hypothesis was formulated to guide the study

Ho1: there is no Significant difference in Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s Involvement in the Primary School Administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State based on School Type

Methodology

The research design that was used for the study is descriptive survey design. The reason for using this design was to provide information about Parent Teachers Associations (P T A s) s' Involvement in Primary School Administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State. The population of this study was 239 head teachers. A research advisor was used to determine the sample size for this study and the sample size of 132 was recommended and selected. the sample size was purposively chosen all since their population was small. The instrument designed for this was researcher designed questionnaire titled Questionnaire for parent teachers associations' Involvement in the Primary

School administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State QPTAIPSA).. The questionnaire was divided in (Section A and B). Section A contained personal information of the respondents (school type). Section B contained a set of close ended items based on four parts and structured on four point Likert scale. Keys: Strongly Agree (SA) = 4; Agree (A) = 3; Disagree (D) =2; and Strongly Disagree (SD) = 1. The Validations of the Questionnaire was carried out by lecturers from the department of early childhood and primary education, Faculty of Education, Kwara State University. The reliability of the instrument was established by using the test - retest method. The results of the two administrations test scores were correlated using PPMC and gave a reliability coefficient of 0.76 which shown that the research instrument was therefore reliable. The data collected for the study were analyzed using descriptive mean and inferential statistics of T-test. Mean statistics were used in the analysis of the research question while t-test were used in testing the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance

Results

Research Question One: What is the level of Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s Involvement in the Primary School Administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State?

Table 1: Table showing the level of Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s Involvement in the Primary School Administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State

S/N	Items	Strongly Agreed	Agreed	Disagreed	Strongly Disagreed	Mean
1	PTA enhances the overall learning environment for primary school pupils	5(3.8)	12(9.1)	40(30.3)	75(56.8)	1.60
2	The PTA actively collaborates with teachers to address educational challenges within the primary school		21(15.9)	17(12.9)	94(71.2)	1.45
3	The PTA effectively advocates for resources and support for primary school educational programs		8(6.1)	14(10.6)	110(83.3)	1.23
4	The PTA actively supports and encourages parent volunteerism within the primary school		8(6.1)	23(17.4)	101(76.5)	1.30
5	The PTA's contributes to a positive and supportive school culture		13(9.8)	19(14.4)	100(75.8)	1.34
6	The PTA actively participates in the identification and resolution of challenges faced by the school	2(1.5)	23(17.4)	18(13.6)	89(67.4)	1.53
7	The PTA's involvement positively influences parental engagement in school activities	1(0.8)	11(8.3)	21(15.9)	99(75.0)	1.35
8	The school administration involves the PTA in the development of the annual school budget		8(6.1)	19(14.4)	105(79.5)	1.27
9	The PTA is involved in the process of selecting and evaluating teaching staff	3(2.3)	11(8.3)	19(14.4)	99(75.0)	1.38
10	The school administration collaborates effectively with the PTA to address issues related to student welfare	2(1.5)	8(6.1)	21(15.9)	101(76.5)	1.33
11	The PTA contributes significantly to the planning and execution of school events and activities.	3(2.3)	14(10.6)	18(13.6)	97(73.5)	1.42
12	The school administration values the input and feedback provided by the PTA.	105(79.5)	19(14.4)	8(6.1)		3.73
13	The school administration effectively communicates		7(5.3)	28(21.3)	97(73.5)	1.32

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	with the PTA regarding important school matters					
14	The PTA actively participates in the decision-making process related to primary school policies		8(6.1)	19(14.4)	105(79.5)	1.27
15	The school administration involves the PTA in the development of long-term strategic plans for the school	36(27.3)	49(37.1)	28(21.2)	19(14.4)	2.77
	Weighted Mean					**1.62**

Decision rule: Low: 1.00 – 2.49 **High: 2.50 – 4.00**

Table 1 shows the level of Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s Involvement in the Primary School Administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State. The respondents agreed with the following: The school administration values the input and feedback provided by the PTA (3.73); The school administration involves the PTA in the development of long-term strategic plans for the school (2.77). However, the respondents disagree with the following: PTA enhances the overall learning environment for primary school students (1.60); The PTA actively collaborates with teachers to address educational challenges within the primary school (1.45); The PTA effectively advocates for resources and support for primary school educational programs (1.23); The PTA actively supports and encourages parent volunteerism within the primary school (1.30);

Furthermore, the PTA's contributes to a positive and supportive school culture (1.34); The PTA actively participates in the identification and resolution of challenges faced by the school (1.53); The PTA's involvement positively influences parental engagement in school activities (1.35); The school administration involves the PTA in the development of the annual school budget (1.27); The PTA is involved in the process of selecting and evaluating teaching staff (1.38); The school administration collaborates effectively with the PTA to address issues related to student welfare (1.33); The PTA contributes significantly to the planning and execution of school events and activities (1.42); The school administration effectively communicates with the PTA regarding important school matters (1.32); The PTA actively participates in the decision-making process related to primary school policies (1.27). The weighted mean is 1.62 which is a numeric indicator that the level of Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s Involvement in the Primary School Administration was low.

Research Hypothesis: There is no significant difference in Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s involvement in the primary school administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State based on school type.

Table 2: T- test table showing difference in Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s involvement in the primary school administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State based on school type

School type	**n**	**Mean**	**Std. Deviation**	**t**	**df**	**Sig**	**Remark**
Private	61	24.49	5.57				
Public	71	24.07	5.02	.457	130	.648	Not Significant

Table 2 shows the difference in Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s involvement in the primary school administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State based on school type. There is no significant difference in Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s involvement in the primary school administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State based on school type ($t = .457$; $df = 130$; $p > 0.05$). The hypothesis is therefore not rejected in the light of the result since the significant value (.648) is greater than 0.05.

Discussion of Findings

The study examined Parent Teachers Associations' Involvement in the Primary School Administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State. The finding of study revealed that the school administration values the input and feedback provided by the PTA as well as involving the PTA in the development of long-term strategic plans for the school. However, the study is in line with finding ofEdnakanana,2015) who stated that head teachers' managerial skills, teachers' participation, pupils' involvement and parents participation positively and significantly influence academic performance in public primary schools. Moreover, the study pointed out that the respondents were in adequately involves on the following: PTA enhances the overall learning environment for primary school pupils; The PTA actively collaborates with teachers to address educational challenges within the primary school; The PTA effectively advocates for resources and support for primary school educational programs; The PTA actively supports and encourages parent volunteerism within the primary school; The PTA's involvement contributes to a positive and supportive school culture;

However, The PTA actively participates in the identification and resolution of challenges faced by the school; The PTA's involvement positively influences parental engagement in school activities; The school administration involves the PTA in the development of the annual school budget; The PTA is involved in the process of selecting and evaluating teaching staff; The school administration collaborates effectively with the PTA to address issues related to student welfare; The PTA contributes significantly to the planning and execution of school events and activities; The school administration effectively communicates with the PTA regarding important school matters; The PTA actively participates in the decision-making process related to primary school policies.

Also, the study revealed that the level of Parent Teachers Associations (PTAs)'s Involvement in the Primary School Administration was low. However, this finding is in line with the finding of Uzoma, (2013) who indicated that international donor agencies contribute to a low extent in the provision of instructional materials, sports and health equipments, furniture and classroom blocks for the implementation of UBE programme. Moreover, the study shows that there was no significant difference in Parent Teachers Associations' involvement in the primary school administration in Kabo Local Government of Kano State based on school type. The hypothesis is therefore not rejected in the light of the result.

Conclusion

Based on the findings, the study revealed that the level of Parent Teachers Association's Involvement in the Primary School Administration was low. The hypothesis is therefore not rejected.

Recommendations

The following recommendations were made:

1. Parent Teachers Associations' involvement should be improved by the primary school administrations.

2. school administration should add more efforts in valuing the input and feedback provided by the PTA as well as involving them in the development of long term strategic plans for the school, and

3. However, Parent Teachers Associations should involve fully in the primary school administration in order to support the success of pupils' academic performance and academic achievement.

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