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The Role of The School Committee In Improving The Quality of Education In Banda Aceh City State Junior High Schools

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Abstract: This research aims to describe the role of school committees in improving the quality of education in Banda Aceh City State Junior High Schools. This research uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach. Subjects in this research included school principals, school committees, teachers and deputy principals for curriculum. The location of this research is the Banda Aceh State Junior High School. Data collection techniques are carried out through observation, interviews and documentation. Data analysis was carried out by data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. The research results show that the role of the school committee includes the planning, implementation and evaluation stages. The school committee has three main functions, namely as a controller of educational quality planning, such as planning educational programs at Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools. Apart from that, the school committee always supervises the implementation of every planned activity at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School. The committee's role also includes monitoring educational output results. However, the school committee at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School is not involved in controlling the results of the final exam, but only participates in supervising the implementation of the student's final exam.

Keyword: School Committee, Quality of Education, Junior High School.

INTRODUCTION

One of the problems in education is related to the quality of education. Based on the Minister of National Education Regulation Number 63 of 2009 concerning the Education Quality Assurance System, the quality of education is "an activity that systematic and integrated in the implementation of education to increase the level of intelligence in the nation's life." The nation's intelligence is obtained through education, and improving the quality of education has a great influence on the creation of humans who are globally competitive.

The ability of graduates to transition to secondary school and the world of work is a good indicator of the quality of an educational institution. Schools that provide high quality education must have good input that can be processed to produce quality graduates. According to (Mar'ati, 2022), multidimensional education quality includes input, process and

outcome quality components. Thus, intake, process, and output are all considered in creating quality education. Quality education refers to the services provided by various educational institutions to qualified students and teachers to produce graduates with the talents, skills and knowledge necessary to enter society.

Providing quality education requires support and synergistic roles from various related parties, which consist of three components: school, family and community. As an institution, elementary schools play an important role in determining the quality of the nation's next generation. With the tricenter of education emerging from old, transitional and new paradigms, superior education requires cooperation from various stakeholders. According to (Rahdiyanta, 2022), "related to bureaucratic and hierarchical relationships, schools often view society as parties outside the school, unless necessary. Families, schools and communities will only be in contact when necessary, with incidental and temporary commitments, not eternal commitments for the benefit of the nation's young generation."

Therefore, cooperation from various parties is needed in the reconstruction of school committee management. As stated (Aswaruddin et al., 2023), in facing the globalization of education, appropriate and fast steps need to be taken to ensure the formation of a competent generation in line with development demands. Communities, schools and governments must work together regardless of time and space limitations. The relationship between school and community, according to (Suebudin, 2021), is communication to develop relationships, which can encourage community involvement, accept ideas and invitations, and strive to make them a success. Learning how to create good communication between schools and school committees is important to increase awareness of each community or school's responsibilities in improving the quality of education and achieving desired results.

Based on the relationship pattern of the tricenter of education, the presence of the school committee is projected to improve the relationship pattern in the future. According to Minister of National Education Decree Number 044/U/2002 concerning the reference for the Formation of School Committees, "school committees are independent bodies that accommodate community participation in order to improve the quality, equity and efficiency of education management in educational units, both in pre-school education, school education pathways , as well as out-of-school education pathways." In this sense, school committees can be a forum for community participation in improving the quality of education in Indonesia. The school committee according to Minister of National Education Decree Number 044/U/2002 has the role of providing advice (advisory agency), supporter (supporting agency), controller (controlling agency) and mediator.

The formation of school committees is stipulated in Minister of Education and Culture Decree No. 75 of 2016. The school committee is an organization that bridges the relationship between the school and the community, so as to create the mutual understanding and cooperation expected by the school and the community. Therefore, school committees have roles and functions that are in line with school institutions in improving the quality of education and learning. The participation of school committees and the community can provide assistance in the form of innovative and creative thoughts and ideas for the progress of educational institutions. Community participation is very necessary in developing education in schools, which is one of the objectives of forming school committees, as well as to increase responsibility and participation in the implementation of education in educational units. The school committee can carry out its role and function as a working partner for the school principal to manage education, so that it can provide facilities for teachers and students to increase the effectiveness of learning (Nelliraharti, 2018).

The school committee is an independent body that accommodates community participation in improving the quality, equity and effectiveness of education management in educational units, both in preschool education, school education and out-of-school education

(Syamsuddin, 2018). The naming of this body is adjusted to the regional conditions and needs of each educational unit, such as school committee, madrasa council, school council, kindergarten committee, or other mutually agreed names. The term of office for School Committee members as described in the 2016 Minister of Education and Culture Regulation Article 8 is a maximum of three years and can be re-elected for one term of office. Membership of the School Committee ends if the member resigns, dies, is unable to carry out his duties due to permanent absence, or is convicted of a crime based on a court decision that has permanent legal force.

Empowering school committees requires a gradual process over time, starting from the level of raising awareness of the importance of the function of school committees to both the community and education providers. The school committee is tasked with providing considerations in determining and implementing education policies, raising funds from the community, including individuals, organizations, the business world, the industrial world, and other stakeholders through creative and innovative efforts (Jumadi et al., 2022). In addition, the school committee supervises educational services in schools in accordance with statutory provisions, and follows up on complaints, suggestions, criticism and aspirations from students, parents and the community, as well as the results of the school committee's observations of school performance (Megawaty et al., 2021; Nursanti et al., 2020).

The Department of National Education in community participation outlines seven roles of school committees in school administration, namely, Helping to improve the smooth implementation of teaching and learning activities in schools, both in terms of facilities, infrastructure and technical education. Developing student attitudes and behavior, assisting schools in realizing the formation and development of devotion to God Almighty. Looking for funding sources to help disadvantaged students. Carrying out assessments of schools to develop curriculum implementation, both intracurricular and extracurricular, as well as the implementation of school management, principals, teachers, students and employees. Discuss the proposed school income and expenditure budget plan. Ask the school to hold a meeting for a specific purpose.

So far, most people still believe that the school committee is an organization within the school which only consists of representatives of students' parents and focuses only on the financial sector. Meanwhile, some schools form school committees only as a condition for obtaining subsidies. The school committee is a forum for meetings between the school and the community (parents) to coordinate regarding developments occurring in the school, both relating to students and other matters relating to the continuity of the institution (Somali et al., 2021). Apart from that, the school committee can also hold outreach regarding policies adopted by the school or educational policies that apply on a larger scale, such as the free school program. Meetings between the committee and parents can also be used as a forum to accommodate aspirations that can support the school.

Control in school management is very important and is a strategy to avoid deviations from a rational approach to the existence of inputs (quantity and quality of materials, money, staff, equipment, facilities and information). Control also includes activities (scheduling and provisions for implementing activities) and output (desired product standards) (Podomi et al., 2019). With the existence of a school committee, it is hoped that it can bridge and accommodate the aspirations of students' parents, as well as control the education implemented by the school. Public or parental awareness of education is still considered very low and minimal, especially when discussing educational issues. One of the impacts of the school committee's contribution as a controlling body is the quality of education. Educational quality is related to the extent to which a product meets certain criteria or standards through concrete measurements or qualitative observations.

The quality of education is an important factor in an educational institution (Akmaluddin & Mutiawati, 2018). However, there are still many schools that pay little attention to the quality of education and do not involve school committees as controllers in improving the quality of education (Muttaqin & Nurwati, 2021). Because the quality of education is related to the extent of a product meet certain criteria or standards through concrete measurements nor qualitative observations (Syarifuddin et al., 2024).

Based on initial observations carried out at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School, it appears that the school committee has carried out its duties well. The role of the committee in this school can be used as an example for other schools in improving quality and involvement in controlling the quality of education (Betry & Zakir, 2024). Therefore, it is necessary to examine more specifically how the committee at Banda Aceh State Junior High School carries out its role as a controlling body as well as the role of the committee in planning and implementing school programs, which contributes to the excellent quality of education seen today.

METHOD

This research uses qualitative methods, according to the research title. Qualitative methods are used to obtain accurate data in the form of information which is used as the basis for this research. Qualitative research involves explanations and descriptions that describe certain circumstances, processes, or phenomena.

According to (Sugiyono, 2019), qualitative research is a method used to research objects in natural conditions, where the researcher acts as a key instrument. The data collection technique was carried out using triangulation (combination), with data analysis and research results that emphasized meaning rather than generalization. Bogdan and Taylor, as quoted by (Moleong, 2017), define qualitative methods as research procedures that produce descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and their behavior. Kirk and Miller, also quoted by (Moleong, 2017), define qualitative research as a tradition in social science that fundamentally relies on observation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the results of research conducted at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School regarding the role of committees in controlling the quality of education through observation, interviews and documentation, researchers discussed several things as follows:

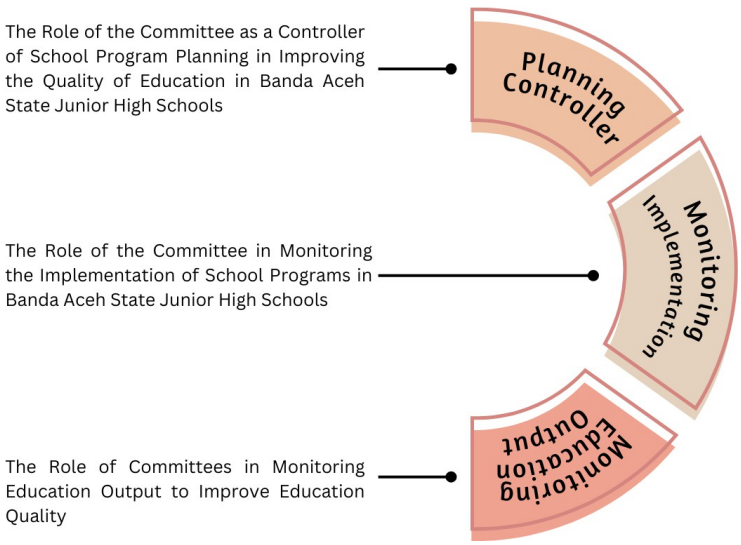


Figure 1. Indicators of the Role of the School Committee

The Role of the Committee as a Controller of School Program Planning in Improving the Quality of Education in Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools

Based on statements from the school committee regarding their role in supervising the decision-making process, the researcher concluded that the school committee was active in supervising school planning. The committee provides considerations in determining and implementing policies related to school programs. From the results of interviews, researchers found that the school committee at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School consistently supervised activities that had been planned by the school, as well as accompanying and supervising the implementation of programs that had been jointly planned.

Regarding supervision standards, researchers concluded that learning is able to increase students' enthusiasm so that they can continue to develop their talents and interests accompanied by teachers. The acceptance standards for educators and education personnel are also in accordance with education quality standards.

Based on Minister of Education and Culture Regulation no. 75 of 2016 concerning School Committees, Article 3, explains that school committees are tasked with providing considerations in determining and implementing school program policies, school income and expenditure budget plans (School Income and Expenditure Budget Plans / School Activity and Budget Plans), school performance criteria, educational facilities, as well as school collaboration with other parties. The committee is also tasked with raising funds and other educational resources from the community through creative and innovative efforts, supervising educational services in accordance with statutory regulations, and following up on complaints, suggestions and aspirations from students, parents/guardians and the community.

From the results of the interviews, it was found that the school committee at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School collaborated with the school principal in carrying out supervision, such as checking the assistance received to ensure it was on target and providing direction



Figure 2. Committee as Planning Controller

Currently, the school committee is also supervising the use of BOS funds and other government assistance. The school committee acts as a controller and supervisory body for school policies, with social supervision that is more preventive in nature. An example is when a school prepares a School Revenue and Expenditure Budget Plan or report to the community.

Based on research regarding the standards of facilities and infrastructure at Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools, it was found that the existing facilities are in accordance with

education quality standards. For example, using a projector as a possible learning medium improve the abilities of teachers and students in the field of Technology. The researcher concluded that the school committee had carried out its planning oversight role well, including monitoring the creation and implementation of school programs rationally by considering various aspects.

The Role of the Committee in Monitoring the Implementation of School Programs in Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools

This research found that the school committee at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School was active in supervising the implementation of school programs. The committee collaborates with the school principal to evaluate and supervise each program, as well as provide input, considerations and recommendations in creating programs such as the School Revenue and Expenditure Budget Plan, school performance criteria, educational staff criteria and educational facilities. In carrying out supervision at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School, the school committee is involved from the planning, implementation, to evaluation stages. The committee also controls and evaluates school programs every three months.

From the results of the interviews, researchers concluded that the school committee plays a role in scheduling school programs. The committee controls the schedule for implementing activities through the educational calendar determined by the head of the Banda Aceh State Junior High School madrasah. The committee also visits schools every week to ensure the program runs according to the established schedule. Based on interviews regarding the role of committees in monitoring budget allocations for school programs, researchers found that school committees participate in monitoring budget allocations. To support the implementation of school programs, school committees often use their own funds because support from the government is still lacking. The committee helps school principals ensure that budget allocations are appropriate and on target. Most of the funds for activities at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School come from the school committee.

Researchers also identified two main sources of funds in Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools, namely BOS funds from the government and funds from the school committee/parents to support the implementation of programs and activities at the school. These funds from parents are taken from the re-registration money for new students. Based on findings in the field, the school committee has carried out its role well in monitoring the implementation of school programs and supervising the budget in program planning. Financing standards at Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools are also in accordance with national education standards.



Figure 3. Committee as Implementation Monitor

The Role of Committees in Monitoring Education Output to Improve Education Quality

Monitoring educational output is an important part of the school committee's performance in carrying out its role and function as a controlling body. At the Banda Aceh State Junior High School, the school committee is involved in monitoring student final exam results, retention rates, repetition rates, and school participation. The research found that the school committee at Banda Aceh State Junior High School consistently monitors educational output, but they only supervise the implementation process and are not involved in evaluating exam results. Based on statements from informants, researchers concluded that the school committee was always involved in all activities at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School, including monitoring final exams. However, their supervision is limited to the implementation process, not the results.

From interviews regarding graduate standards at Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools, it was found that graduate standards were in accordance with national education standards. This can be seen from the quality of alumni who continue their education to a higher level and many of them are accepted into superior schools in Aceh. Research on assessment standards shows that assessment standards at Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools are in accordance with national education standards, with graduation standards based on criteria Minimum Completeness.

Based on research on the implementation of the curriculum in Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools, it was found that the school is currently still using the 2013 Curriculum, but starting this semester it has started implementing the Merdeka Curriculum for class VII. Meanwhile, classes VIII and IX still use the 2013 Curriculum. The conclusion of this research is that the school committee has carried out its duties well in monitoring student final exam activities and student graduation assessment standards. The curriculum implemented at the Banda Aceh State Junior High School is also in accordance with national education quality standards.



Figure 4. Committee as Monitor of Educational Output

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the research results that have been presented, the author concludes that the role of the committee in controlling school program planning to improve quality in Banda Aceh State Junior High Schools has gone well. The school committee has carry out their role by supporting activities and programs at the school. They also supervise the school principal's decision making as well as transparency in the allocation of funds for the School Revenue and Expenditure Budget Plan to ensure good accountability. The school committee at the

Banda Aceh State Junior High School succeeded in monitoring the implementation of the program well in an effort to improve the quality of education. One of the school's strategies for improving the quality of education is through student achievement, which is manifested in various extracurricular activities such as scouts, Youth Red Cross, paskibra, drumband, olympiads (mathematics, English, biology, physics, Social Sciences), speech, sports (volleyball, table tennis, karate, badminton, etc.), recitations, calligraphy, choir, and others. These activities have succeeded in producing many achievements for students at regional, provincial and national levels. The principal appreciated the students who achieved this achievement because their achievements also reflected the achievements of the school as a whole, which had a positive impact on the quality of education. The school committee at Banda Aceh State Junior High School has also carried out its role in monitoring educational output to improve the quality of education. They actively monitor students' final exam results, retention rates, repetition rates, and school participation. However, research shows that school committees only focus on monitoring the final exam implementation process and are not involved in evaluating the results.

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