

The Development of School Leadership at District Level

by Dwi Esti Andriani, Suyud

ABSTRACT

School leadership development has become a global industry today. Various countries in the world are implementing school leadership preparation and development programs and continue to make development efforts to increase their effectiveness. In Indonesia, the development of school leadership began to receive government attention in the era of decentralized education, namely the 2000s. The government has issued various policies and programs related to school leadership, for example the establishment of qualification and competency standards for school principals, a new model for preparing school principals (in-on-in training), and performance-based assessments of principals. These policies are the direction and basis for implementing school leadership development, especially school principals, who are currently the duty and responsibility of local governments through the District / City Education Office. This study aims to examine the policies and programs carried out by district / city governments in developing school leadership in their regions, what issues and problems they face. This research is a qualitative study using the interpretivism paradigm, with a theoretical framework of symbolic interactionism.

The results showed that 1) the City Education Office implemented school leadership development primarily through two programs, namely: a program to prepare prospective school principals and a program to strengthen school principals in office. The head-to-school training program has not been implemented due to budget constraints; 2) The City Education Office faces the problem of a shortage of prospective school principals as well as a lack of authority from the education office in developing training programs for prospective school principals. In connection with the school principal strengthening program, the issues faced are limited funds and an irrelevant curriculum. The Dinas also does not have the authority to manage the education and training curriculum. This study suggests the District / City Education Office to organize school headship training programs to strengthen school competencies in their regions. In addition, the education office needs to increase the attractiveness of school principals to increase the number and quality of prospective school principals.

Kata Kunci: *School Leadership, the Development of School Leadership*