



Influence of Parent Teachers' Association on the Provision of School Facilities in Primary Schools in Bauchi South Educational Zone, Bauchi State

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ABSTRACT

The study assessed the influence of parent teachers' association on provision of school facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone, Bauchi State. A table for sample determination by Krecjje and Morgan was used to sample 250 respondents for the study. 250 questionnaires were distributed. Three objectives and three research questions were formulated to guide the study. Questionnaires were used to collect data for the study. Responses to the open-ended items in the questionnaires were analysed and recorded quantitatively while closed-ended items in the questionnaires were analysed and reported descriptive statistics such as frequencies and percentages. The findings of the study revealed that there is significant difference between physical facilities in primary schools related to PTA. Based on the findings of the study, it concluded that PTA as its influenced the provision of physical facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone and established that based on the findings obtained from the sample schools where it was clear that these schools have inadequate physical facilities, lack of available land for school expansion and poor school structures. It also concluded that influence of Parent Teachers' Association in the administration of primary schools is basically the same, though the method of organization and participation may differ from school to school and from one community to another. The study recommends that headmasters embrace more transparency and accountability during utilization of available PTA funds. The government should increase land for school expansion as a way of improving the primary schools. It was also recommended that the government should come on board to enhance the school structures for sporting activities and for effective delivery of teaching and learning.

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INTRODUCTION

Parent Teachers' Association (PTA) is an association run by some parents and teachers to discuss matters that affect the children and to organise events to raise money and assist the school. The Nigerian philosophy of education is based on the behalf that education is an instrument for national development as well as a veritable tool for social, economic and political

change Federal Republic of Nigeria National Policy on Education (2018). This is underscored by the fact that it transcends the social, cultural, political and the economic fabrics of the society.

For education therefore, to be seen as successful, it requires huge investment either in terms of policy and implementation, infrastructure, human capacity development and of course funds which provide the purchasing capacity of the

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quality of education required and demanded by the various individuals of the society (Paul, 2017). For these reasons, huge investment is required in terms of funding so as to equip the sector with adequate financial and material resources needed for the improvement of its quality and access towards the attainment of the set down goals of education and the much-needed national development (Aminu, 2019).

Physical facility in the context of this study, thus can be defined as the school plants being invested in school and how these facilities are adequately being appropriated by the concerned school authority towards improving the quality of primary school education in Bauchi State as a whole (Aghenta, 2019). When physical facilities were properly utilised may tremendously improve the quality of primary school education. By explanation, school physical facilities are those things that actually exist and can facilitate teaching and learning in school. They may include the school buildings like administrative offices, staff rooms, classrooms, stores, libraries, laboratories, staff quarters, school playgrounds, assembly halls, examination halls, workshops' plants and equipments, dormitories and so on (Ajayi, 2019).

Unfortunately, most of the various school Parent Teachers' Associations have not been able to perform their role effectively as expected of them by the society. A personal observation during visits to some of the schools in the study area revealed that there is very inadequate provision of school facilities or short supply of infrastructural facilities and learning equipment in the schools. For instance, the school buildings are dilapidated and are in very bad conditions too. There is short or no supply of basic textbooks in many subjects' area. Neither are their computers and other viral teaching and learning facilities in the schools. In some schools, one hardly can find enough qualified teachers to teach special and very important science subjects at the basic school level.

It is not unusual now to hear teachers complaining in some of these primary schools that chalk which is now obsolete and an old fashion, is lacking in the primary schools. The teachers

sometimes only do manage to teach the pupils any how because they cannot effectively improvise everything or some of the basic teaching and learning resources used in teaching their pupils. Therefore, the quality of education supplied in these cases would obviously be diluted bringing down the standard of education drastically. This could lead to mass examination failure. In many primary schools, the pupils are congested in the classrooms as such, some of them are compelled to sit on the floor to take their lessons and even write their examinations due to lack of enough seats. This situation affects teaching and learning seriously, besides the fact that the pupils' uniforms and books become very dirty and untidy.

Furthermore, Parent Teachers' Association assist and support their children's academic activities in schools. It is also disheartening to hear that even the traditional one hundred naira only charged per a student in a term as a compulsory PTA levy, parents hardly or do not pay for their children at all. Worst still, in spite of government's incessant outcry and complains on the rapid growing population of primary school aged children leading to the frequent expansion of primary schools nationwide, most of the various school Parent Teachers' Associations in the zone under study, are always very reluctant to reasonably assist primary education in their domain, in spite of the bad learning conditions of their children (Paul, 2017).

In some few schools where the PTA have tried to engaged some teachers to teach based on special areas of needs, for example in some subjects where teachers are lacking, such teachers are more often hardly retained due to the very poor working condition offered them by the system. It is therefore, against this background that this study was carried out in order to evaluate the influence of Parent Teachers' Association (PTA) in provision of physical facilities in primary schools in Bauchi State.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Although, education is a capital-intensive venture and as such requires adequate provision of physical facilities for effective

functioning. Over the years, the government has been the sole sponsor of education at all its levels. However, due to population explosion which led to increase in enrolment, coupled with the great public awareness of the importance of education, the infrastructural demand of education has become too unbearable for the government alone to bear.

The high rate of inefficiency, dilapidated structures and poor education delivery in Nigerian schools could be traceable to poor provision of physical facilities. Onderi (2019) stated that infrastructure is critical to the success of education and as such called on other stakeholders to assist the government in provision of physical facility in schools. The effects of poor provision of physical facility for primary education, are evident in the high rate of indiscipline among students, poor teaching due to the low morale and constant industrial action by teachers, uncondusive learning environment, poor performance of students, poor teacher training and many other educational problems that are accompanied by their undesirable consequences on the society.

In Bauchi State particularly several efforts have been made in the recent part to curb these problems have not yield satisfactory results. The danger here is that if primary school education is not adequately infrastructure, the aim of primary education in Nigeria, which is to prepare youth for useful societal living and basic education, may be an illusion. In a bid to curb this from happening, there is need to explore other avenues of sourcing infrastructures to help primary education to ensure that its aims and objectives are achieved. At present, there is a disparity between the ideal and the present regarding primary education due to poor provision of physical facility. Now, the problem of this study is to assess the influence of parent teachers' association engagement on provision of school facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone, Bauchi State.

Objectives of the Study

The study was undertaken for the aim of achieving the following specific objectives;

1. To assess the extent to which PTA contribute in the provision of school facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone.
2. To find out the extent to which PTA assist in the provision of school land for expansion in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone.
3. To assess the level to which PTA have enhanced the provision of school structures in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone.

Research Questions

1. To what extent does PTA contribute in the provision of physical facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone?
2. To what extent does PTA assist in the provision of school land for expansion in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone?
3. What is the level to which PTA enhanced the provision of school structures in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone?

Research Hypotheses

The under listed hypotheses was formulated for the study and was tested at 0.05 level of significance;

- Ho₁**. There is no significant difference in the provision of school facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone.
- Ho₂**. There is no significant difference in the provision of school land for expansion in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone.
- Ho₃**. There is no significant difference enhanced the provision of school structures in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone.

Scope of the Study

The study assed the influence of Parent Teachers' Association engagement on provision of school facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south senatorial zone, Bauchi State. There are three educational zones in Bauchi State but this



study is limited to some selected primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this study, the literature was widely reviewed under the following subheadings:

1. Theoretical framework
2. Concept of PTA
3. Significance of PTA to Schools
4. Historical Development of Parents Teachers' Association
5. Functions of Parents Teachers' Association in Schools
6. Parents Teachers' Association and Provision of School Facilities
7. Parents Teachers' Association and Provision of School Personnel
8. Constraints against PTA in School Administration
9. Review of Related Empirical Studies
10. Summary of Literature Reviewed

METHODOLOGY

This study adopted a descriptive survey research design. A descriptive survey design is one in which a group of people or item is studied by collecting and analysing data from only a few people or item considered to be representatives of the entire group. This study was conducted in Bauchi south educational zone, Bauchi State. Bauchi State is in the north-east geopolitical zone

of Nigeria and was created in 1976. The population of the study comprises of primary schools' headmasters, PTA chairmen in Bauchi south educational zone, with a total number of 444.

A table for sample determination by Krecjie and Morgan was used to sample 250 respondents for the study. 250 questionnaires were distributed. Four objectives and four research questions were formulated to guide the study. The instrument was validated by three experts and the test re-test reliability method was used. The result obtained was compared using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient (PPMCC) to establish the reliability index. 250 questionnaires were used to collect data for the study. Responses to the open-ended items in the questionnaires were analysed and recorded quantitatively while closed-ended items in the questionnaires were analysed and reported descriptive statistics such as frequencies and percentages.

RESULTS

Research Question 1:

To what extent does PTA contribute in the provision of physical facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone?

Table one indicates a high mean 15.106 for physical facilities with low mean score of 22.105 PTA influence.

Table 1: Mean and SD for Physical Facilities

Variables	N	X	SD
PTA Influence	200	22.105	1.569
Physical Facilities	200	15.106	1.068

Research Question 2:

To what extent does PTA assist in the provision of school land for expansion in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone?

Table two indicates a high mean 63.34 for PTA influence with low mean score of 62.45 for land expansion of school. This showed that there is difference between PTA and available land for school expansion.

Table 2: Mean and SD for Provision of Land for School Expansion

Variables	N	X	SD
PTA Influence	200	63.34	5.71
Land for School Expansion	200	62.45	5.094

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Research Question 3:

What is the level to which PTA enhanced the provision of school structures in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone?

Table three indicates a high mean 63.70 for PTA influence with low mean score of 63.34 for school structures. This showed that there is difference between PTA and school structures.

Table 1: Mean and SD for Provision of School Structures

Variables	N	X	SD
PTA Influence	200	63.70	4.58
School Structures	200	63.34	5.71

Findings of the Study

1. There is significant difference in the provision of school facilities and PTA.
2. There is also a significant difference in the provision of school land for expansion and PTA.
3. There is significant difference in the provision of school structures and PTA.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The discussion of the findings of the study were organised round the research questions and the hypotheses formulated to guide the study; The study probed that the research sought to know the modalities for extent to PTA contributed in the provision of physical facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone. It was discovered that there is difference physical facilities and PTA. This is in line with the study of Asyago (2017) and Mbugua (2018) observed that one of the areas where PTA is utilised in Nigeria is in developing school facilities. It is argued that in dealing with school facilities, school managements have to bear in mind where to house the educational program, the population to be served by the facility and ensure that resources are readily available for the for the school expansions.

The study also reveals that there is no significant difference in the provision of school land for expansion in primary schools and PTA. This is similar to the study of Nyaga (2015) which revealed that PTA alone is inadequate to sustain land for school expansion. Then present study therefore sought to find the current situation in primary schools. The study also focused on the provision of land for school expansion which also

play an important role in providing education services in primary schools.

The study further revealed that there is no significant difference enhanced the provision of school structures in primary schools and PTA. This is similar to the study of Onyango (2011) posited that provision of school structures in primary schools are the largest most crucial inputs of an educational system. They influence to a great extent the quality of the educational output.

Summary of the Present Study

The present study evaluated the influence of Parent Teachers, Association on provision of school facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone, Bauchi State. The study consisted of three objectives, three research questions and three research hypotheses were raised and tested at 0.05 significant level. Several literatures were reviewed based on the objectives of the study. A proportional random sampling technique was used to select 250 respondents was used using research assistant table. 250 questionnaires were distributed in which 200 were successfully returned. The study was aimed at providing information to education stakeholders on the need to revitalize PTA to ensure quality education in primary schools. The study was based on the human capital theory and employed survey research design.

CONCLUSION

The study investigated PTA as its influenced the provision of physical facilities in primary schools in Bauchi south educational zone and established that based on the findings obtained from the sample schools where it was clear that these schools have inadequate physical



facilities, lack of available land for school expansion and poor school structures.

The study also concluded that influence of Parent Teachers' Association in the administration of primary schools is basically the same, though the method of organization and participation may differ from school to school and from one community to another. A lot of factors could be responsible for this; it is also possible that they do not participate actively because of the modalities use; it could be the socio-cultural and socio-economic status of the parents that is the hindrance. Understanding of parents in rural areas would definitely not be the same with that of those in urban areas. Sometimes, when the role of the Parent Teachers' Association is not clearly defined to them, they might not appreciate the extent in which their participation in school administration would be. But, to a great extent there is not much difference in the attitude of the PTA in helping out in primary schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made;

1. School administration should embrace more transparency and accountability in order to make provision for enough school facilities.
2. The government should increase land for school expansion as a way of improving the primary schools.
3. It was also recommended that the government should come on board to enhance the school structures for sporting activities and for effective delivery of teaching and learning.

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