

CONTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN IMPROVING STUDENTS' PERFORMANCE: A CASE OF MOROGORO MUNICIPALITY

Mosha, Goodluck

Mzumbe University Library, Box 4, Mzumbe
TANZANIA

Victoria Kapinga

BSc Library and Information Management
TANZANIA

ABSTRACT

This paper investigates the contribution of school libraries in improving students' performance. Analysis was based on a cross-sectional survey data collected from a sample of 100 respondents purposively selected from four Secondary Schools in Morogoro Municipal. The paper employed a mixed approach in data collection. The findings of the study indicate that most secondary schools have libraries. However, majority of respondents used the library occasionally. Pearson Chi-Square and Kendall's tau c test on the correlation between reading materials and accessibility of those materials gave a value which is significant at 5% level which implies that the reading materials and accessibility of those materials by the students were not related. Majority of respondents agreed that there is a positive relationship between school libraries and their achievement which is consistent with Lance Theory, Despite such consistence most of the school libraries lack sufficient reading materials and accessibility of those reading materials is limited. Probably that could be a reason for irregular visit. The study recommends that the government and stakeholders should ensure that schools have libraries adequately staffed with professional librarians, resourced with up-to-date materials, well-funded and improved customer care services. The study concludes that school libraries are the key indicators of academic success of any school and hub of the school curriculum.

Keywords: School library, school performance, secondary schools, school learning resources.