

## The Influence of the Principal's Transformational Leadership and Mastery of Strategic Management on Improving the Quality of Education in State Vocational Schools in Kayuagung District

Leila Adawiyah <sup>1\*</sup>, Edi Harapan <sup>2</sup>, Syaiful Eddy <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1-3</sup>PGRI University of Palembang, Indonesia

Address: Campus : Jln A, Yani Lrg Gotong Royong 9/10 Ulu Plaju Palembang

Author correspondence: [adawiyahleila@gmail.com](mailto:adawiyahleila@gmail.com)\*

**Abstract.** *This study aims to determine the effect of principal transformational leadership and strategic management mastery on improving the quality of education. This study was conducted at State Vocational High Schools in Kayuagung District. This type of research is descriptive quantitative. The population in this study were 201 respondents and the sample in this study were 137 respondents with data collection techniques in the form of questionnaires. Data processing using SPSS version 22. Data analysis techniques used were data normality test, data linearity test, and data multicollinearity test. The results of the study showed that: 1) There is a significant influence between principal transformational leadership on improving the quality of education, 2) There is a significant flow between strategic management mastery on improving the quality of education, 3) There is a significant influence between principal transformational leadership and strategic management mastery on improving the quality of education.*

**Keywords:** *Quality of Education, Strategic Management, Transformational Leadership*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The flexible nature of quality education depends on the goals and activities to be carried out in the classroom. In each educational institution, the facilities and infrastructure that guarantee the adequacy of professional teaching staff and staff/employees, a functional organization, quality leadership, and a stable financial system can be observed in detail. Human resources (teachers, staff, or employees) must be handled professionally to ensure that the needs of teachers and students are met with the support and capabilities of the school itself (Zuhri, 2022).

According to Article 3 and Article 20 of the Republic of Indonesia Law of 2003 concerning the Vision of "National Education". The function of national education is to develop the ability and build the character of students and the culture of the nation that is moral to improve the life of the country. The purpose of national education is to develop the potential of students as individuals who believe and are devoted to God Almighty, who are healthy, intelligent, skilled, creative, independent, and become a democratic nation and always responsible.

Education is one of the most important and strategic factors in ensuring a balanced life because it is a means of increasing human creativity, feeling, and will as well as fostering superior personality. Therefore, to improve the level of education, a leader is needed, namely

the principal who ensures the achievement of educational goals. A good principal will create a superior and quality school (Jaguna, 2023).

The principal is one of the most important components of education in improving the quality of education. As stated in Article 12 paragraph 1 of PP 28 of 1990, the principal is responsible for organizing educational activities, school administration, coaching other educational staff, and utilizing and maintaining facilities and infrastructure (Harapan, 2017) .

The responsibility for completing the quality of education lies with the leader of the unit, called the principal, at the level of education implementer, namely the technical unit of learning implementation. The principal is an educational component that has a fairly high potential to improve student achievement in the quality of education (Mulyasa, 2013). For that reason, a good leader must have the ability to achieve the expected level of success. In addition, a principal has high authority competence in providing instructions and carrying out follow-up supervision of these instructions.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Quality can be interpreted as a methodology and philosophy that can help the institute in planning changes and setting an agenda to face external pressures that exceed capacity (Sallis, 2015). Quality also contains the meaning of the degree of excellence of a product or work result, either in the form of goods and services. While in the world of education, goods and services have meaning that can be seen and cannot be seen, but can be felt (Sudarwan, 2007) .

By maintaining and improving the quality of products or services, organizations can create a good reputation, gain customer trust and face competition better. Improving quality must be a goal that every organization continuously strives for to ensure long-term success and sustainable customer satisfaction (Sarohmad, 2023).

Education can be defined as an effort to shape humans so that they can do good things for themselves and others in life. According to Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System, education is defined as a conscious and planned effort to create an atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have spiritual religious strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble morals, and skills needed by themselves, society, nation, and state (Aedi, 2016).

According to Husaini Usman, educational standards consist of four elements: input, process, output, and results. Educational input is said to be of high quality if it is ready to be processed, and the educational process is said to be of high quality if it can create an active,

innovative, creative, effective, and enjoyable learning atmosphere. In addition, educational output is said to be of high quality if the students' learning outcomes are both academic and non-academic. The results are said to be of high quality if graduates quickly enter the workforce with reasonable salaries, everyone recognizes the excellence of graduates, and everyone is satisfied (Usman, 2013).

Indicators are benchmarks, signs, signs, characteristics, or instructions. Anything that indicates that a school or education is of high quality is considered an indicator of educational quality. High-quality schools reflect high-quality education. Engkoswara mentions several signs of a good school, such as appropriate input, high work enthusiasm, high motivation and interest in learning, appropriate use of funds, time, facilities and professional staff, high trust from various parties, high-quality graduates, and output that meets the needs of the community (Wiyani, 2020).

### **3. METHODS**

This research method uses a quantitative research method, according to Arikunto (2019) The research method, as the name suggests, is required to use numbers starting from data collection, interpretation of the data, and the appearance of the results. The method used in this study uses a quantitative correlational research method.

This study aims to see the relationship between one variable and another. The variables of this study are divided into two groups, namely independent variables and dependent variables. Where the independent variables in this study are transformational leadership and strategic management while the dependent variable is the quality of education.

### **4. RESULTS**

In analyzing respondent data, a frequency table is used to see the composition of respondents' answers to each variable. Analysis of respondent data consisting of gender, last education, and employment status. The selection of respondents carried out in analyzing the existing data is Teachers of SMK Negeri 1 Kayuagung, SMK Negeri 2 Kayuagung and SMK Negeri 3 Kayuagung

#### **1. Transformational Leadership Variable (X1)**

Based on the data, it can be described that the minimum value is 98, while the maximum value is 112 and the average is 104.78 and the standard deviation of the data is 3.307.

**Table 1.** Descriptive Statistical Test Results Table for Variable X1

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Transformational Leadership	134	98	112	104.78	3.307
Valid N (listwise)	134				

2. Strategic Management Variable (X2)

From the data, it can be described that the minimum value is 96, while the maximum value is 114 and the average is 105.81 and the standard deviation of the data is 3.498.

**Table 2.** Descriptive Statistical Test Results of Variable X2

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Strategy Management	134	96	114	105.81	3.498
Valid N (listwise)	134				

3. Educational Quality Success Variable (Y)

From the data, it can be described that the minimum value is 102, while the maximum value is 116 and the average is 109.19 and the standard deviation of the data is 3.199.

**Table 3.** Descriptive Statistical Test Results Table for Variable Y

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Quality of Education	134	102	116	109.19	3.199
Valid N (listwise)	134				

According to Priyatno. D. (2017) the linearity test criteria are if the sig. value  $\geq 0.05$ , then it can be concluded that there is a non-linear relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable. Conversely, if the sig. value  $\leq 0.05$ , then it can be concluded that there is a linear relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable. The following are the results of the linearity test in the table below:

**Table 4.** Linearity Test Results for Variable Y Against Variable X1

ANOVA Table

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Quality of Education * Transformational Leadership	Between Groups	(Combined)	230,887	14	16,492
		Linearity	165,471	1	17,425
		Deviation from Linearity	65,416	13	.530
	Within Groups		1130.069	119	9,496
	Total		1360.955	133	

**Discussion**

Josep Juran defines quality as suitability for use, where a product or service should be in accordance with what is needed or expected by its users. While Edward Denin defines quality as the suitability between a product and the demands of consumer needs, and must be more than that (Aedi, 2020).

Harapan, E. (2017). Research on the Principal's Vision as a Driver of Educational Quality. This research is a qualitative research. The similarity of this research is that in order to improve quality education, the principal must have a clear vision that is oriented towards school quality. Through the vision, the principal as an education operator will overcome the low quality of the school. The difference is discussing the Principal's Vision in a descriptive manner.

Adilah, HG, & Suryana, Y. (2021). Strategic Management Research on Improving the Quality of Elementary Madrasah Education. One of the efforts to improve quality is through the application of strategic management so that it can determine the right strategy to improve the quality of education. The research method used is a descriptive qualitative method. Data collection techniques are carried out through interviews, observations, and documentation studies. The results of strategic management research on improving the quality of education at MI Terpadu ArRifki Cileunyi Bandung consist of four stages, namely environmental analysis, formulation, implementation, and evaluation. The difference is the qualitative research method.

Rochaendi, et al. (2022). Research on the Influence of Strategic Leadership and Financing Management on the Quality of Education. The research approach uses a descriptive method by utilizing quantitative correlational research. From the results of the study, three very basic findings were obtained, namely: (1) strategic leadership has a significant influence on the quality of education by 43.5 percent, (2), financing management has a significant influence on the quality of education by 32.6 percent and (3) strategic leadership and financing management have a significant influence simultaneously and complement each other to improve the quality of education by 60.4 percent. The implication is that efforts to improve the quality of education do not always have to focus on problems with educational facilities and infrastructure, curriculum diversification, teacher quality or education budget. The similarities in solving the problems mentioned above are indeed important, but it is also necessary to strengthen strategic leadership and financing management in educational units which are supported by a shared determination to implement them. The difference is variable X2.

## 5. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of data analysis conducted by researchers, it can be concluded that:

1. There is an influence of the principal's transformational leadership on improving the quality of education in State Vocational Schools in Kayuagung District.
2. There is an influence of strategic management mastery on improving the quality of education in State Vocational Schools in Kayuagung District.

3. There is an influence of the principal's transformational leadership and strategic management mastery on improving the quality of education in State Vocational Schools in Kayuagung District.

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