

**THE ROLE OF THE PRINCIPAL'S LEADERSHIP IN IMPROVING QUALITY OF
EDUCATION AT STATE MTs 4 KLATEN**

**ARYN WIDAWATI, NISA OKTAFIA, KHARISMA SYIFA DEWI, VIRA
LUTHFIAH, SUPRIYANTO**

Islamic Education Management, Faculty of Tarbiyah Sciences, UIN Raden Mas Said
Surakarta

e-mail : arynwidawati8@gmail.com, noktafia79@gmail.com,
kharismasyifa1364@gmail.com, viralutvi05@gmail.com, antosupriyanto773@gmail.com

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis peran kepemimpinan kepala sekolah dalam meningkatkan mutu pendidikan di MTs Negeri 4 Klaten. Dalam konteks pendidikan, kepemimpinan yang efektif merupakan faktor kunci yang mempengaruhi pencapaian tujuan pendidikan. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah kualitatif dengan pendekatan studi kasus, dimana data diperoleh melalui wawancara dan Observasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kepala sekolah berperan sebagai pemimpin visioner, mampu memotivasi dan memberi inspirasi bagi pendidik dan mendidik siswa. Selain itu, kepala sekolah juga berfungsi sebagai fasilitator dalam menciptakan lingkungan belajar yang kondusif. Peningkatan mutu pendidikan dilakukan melalui perencanaan yang matang, pengembangan kompetensi pendidik, dan evaluasi berkala terhadap program pendidikan. Kepemimpinan kepala sekolah tidak sekedar berfungsi sebagai manajer, namun juga sebagai agen perubahan yang berkomitmen untuk mencapai keunggulan dalam pendidikan. Kesimpulan penelitian ini menekankan pentingnya peran kepala sekolah dalam menciptakan iklim pendidikan positif yang pada akhirnya akan meningkatkan mutu pendidikan di MTs Negeri 4 Klaten.

Kata Kunci: kepemimpinan, kualitas

ABSTRAC

This study aims to analyze the leadership role of school principals in improving the quality of education at MTs Negeri 4 Klaten. In context education, effective leaderships is a key factor that affects achievement of educational goals. The research method used is qualitative with a case study approach, where data is obtained through interviews and Observation. The results of the study show that the principal plays the role of Visionary leaders, able to motivate and inspire educators and students educate. In addition, the principal also functions as a facilitator in creating conducive learning environment. Improving the quality of education is carried out through careful planning, development of educator competencies, and periodic evaluations to educational programs. Principal leadership doesn't just function as managers, but also as change agents committed to achieve excellence in education. The conclusion of this study emphasizes the importance of the role of school principals in creating a positive educational climate, which in turn will improve the quality of education at MTs Negeri 4 Klaten.

Keywords: leadership, quality

INTRODUCTION

Background

In this day and age, the world of education is full of changes. In Indonesia changes change always occur and also various problems that enveloping the world of education. One of the principles of the education development strategy national is to improve the quality of education. It is based on a vision and mission of the education system. The strategic vision of the education and training system includes several important aspects, Human Resources are the

<https://jurnalp4i.com/index.php/manajerial>

most important aspect. Humans are resources that are ready to face global challenges in the future. Education must produce individuals who are not only skilled, but also creative, critical, and adaptive to change. A leader has the responsibility to achieve a goal that has been determined in accordance with the agreed vision and mission. Emphasizing that leadership should be taken seriously and results-oriented, not just for pleasure or power (Erlena, 2022).

Basic Concepts of Leadership

Leadership is often discussed in the technical context of the organization, but does not always have a clear definition. This leads to a wide range of understandings about leadership that varies depending on the discipline or perspective used by experts. Leadership can be understood as a process in which a leader influences his members to achieve the goals that have been jointly determined. It emphasizes the importance of social interaction in Leadership. Leaders not only seek to influence, but also must be able to identify and gain support from group members or organization to achieve the goal. The leadership process involves structuring activities and relationships within a group or organization, thereby creating effective cooperation (Bashori et al, 2020).

According to the view (Northouse in Musaddad 2020) that Leadership is the process of influencing a person or group to achieve the goals that have been previously set. In line with this opinion (Septiadi et al. in Syahputra 2023) reveals that leadership is forms of interpersonal influence that occur in certain situational contexts and takes place through the process of communication in achieving goals. According to (Jufrizen et al. in Setiani 2023) Leadership aims to inspire, evoke, influence, and move through example, service, empathy, and the application of value values in order to achieve the goals of organization.

From some of the experts' opinions, it can be concluded that, Leadership is a process that involves influence between individuals or group, inspire, brilliant, and mobilize in context certain situations. The influencing process takes place through communication that effective with the aim of achieving the goals that have been previously set. With Thus, leadership emphasizes the importance of interpersonal interaction and situation in achieving organizational goals. Leadership has several elements The main ones are:

1. Leadership involves communication relationships with others in the organization, where leaders and members interact with each other.
2. In the context of leadership, there is a division in accordance with their position and there is also a process of leaders in influencing their subordinates.
3. There are goals that have been set together that must be achieved. From the explanation above, it can be concluded that leadership is the ability to influence the behavior of individuals or groups in order to achieve a specific goal in certain situations (Siswadi, 2023).

Quality of Education

The quality of education is a condition or circumstance that is shown by each individual or group of educational institutions that function to achieve pre-set goals and to realize interactions between individuals or groups in their environment and to meet the needs of students/users/community (Ahmad Supriyanto, 2009). According to Permendiknas number 63 of 2009 the quality of education is the level of intelligence the nation's life that can be achieved from the implementation of the National Education System. Meanwhile, according to Ace Suryadi and H.A.R Tilaar, the quality of education is the ability of educational institutions to utilize educational resources to improve learning skills as optimally as possible.

Good quality of education can produce intelligent, capable graduates compete and be ready to face challenges in the world of education. Moreover Good quality of education must of course be supported by several factors, Among them are supported by superior educators and education personnel, curriculum that is relevant or in accordance with the times, facilities

<https://jurnalp4i.com/index.php/manajerial>

and infrastructure that adequate and can support the teaching and learning process and also government policies which is in the form of support in the form of budgets, regulations, and programs in supporting equity and improving the quality of education in institutions education. This quality education can create graduates who are intelligent and also have high intellect, integrity and are ready to facing progress and competition in education in the future.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research method of this article uses a qualitative type of research Descriptive. This type of research obtains main data from interviews and observations, The focus of the research is in accordance with the facts in the field (Ramdhan, 2021). This research regarding the role of leaders in improving the quality of education in MTs Negeri 4 Klaten. Research techniques used as research data collection are interviews and observations. The researcher conducted an interview to collecting information from resource persons, namely the principal. Researchers also make observations by visiting the school directly. Analysis process Data is carried out through several stages, namely data collection, data reduction, presentation of data, and drawing conclusions.

DISCUSSION RESULTS

Educational Leadership and Planning

Educational leaders have certain qualities that make it possible to make a positive impact. The ability to work together with others builds With change critical to successful principal leadership (Fitri Aulia et al, 2022). The principal of MTs Negeri 4 Klaten, Mrs. Umi Muslikhah, S.Ag., M.Pd said about the importance of the leadership role Because the principal is one leader who must be able to manage the management school as a whole. The school's responsibility to improve quality Education lies in the principal. The principal must be competent in and are responsible for their duties (Nasution et al, 2023). Role Leadership is very cursive because the principal is not only responsible administrative management, but also has a strategic role in building the school's vision and mission.

A visionary leader plays a crucial role in developing and realizing the school's vision. A vision that is relevant to the needs and goals of the community does not only improve quality of education, but also strengthens the relationship between the school and the community. Thus, the leadership that visionary is key in creating a successful educational environment and sustainable (Fitri Aulia et al, 2022). Mrs. Umi Muslikhah said that the head of the Schools must have a clear vision and the ability to move all school residents towards a common goal.

The quality of an education leader is greatly influenced by the level of education and experience he has. While academic knowledge is important, Not all smart individuals are qualified to be leaders. By Therefore, assessments such as academic potential tests are needed for prospective school principals. Further experience, both as a vice principal and educator, as well as plays an important role in determining leadership ability. Moreover maturity and maturity in thinking, both emotionally and spiritually, must be prepared. Academic potential tests help assess how candidates leaders face problems and challenges that may arise (Syahputra and Darmansah, 2020).

An education leader must be able to deal with difficult situations in decision- making by involving the vice principal's team. Process The deliberations were conducted to discuss the problems and proposed solutions by the team. Although all inputs and opinions are gathered, the final decision remains the responsibility of the principal. Leaders must be able to make decisions to achieve the organization's main goals and needs. Planning organization, supervision, and evaluation contain concepts and behaviors decision-making (Khosiin, 2021). This approach shows the importance of in decision-making while remaining the authority of

As a principal, the educational planning process involves staff or educators. MTs Negeri 4 Klaten has a curriculum development team that play an important role in the planning process. Curriculum as a planning system which covers four things. First, as the output or final result that must be achieved by students. Second, the inputor standard content is the content of the material that must be taught and learned by students. Third, the implementation of lessons is learning methodology as part of the standard process. Fourth, the assessment of on the compatibility between the process and the achievement of learning objectives in order to ensure that inputs, processes, and outputs are in accordance with the plan (Muslimin et al, 2023). Before the new school year, the curriculum development team conducted Deliberation and coordination regarding the education plan for the school year forthcoming. In this process, it involves a student team, a development team curriculum, and all school residents. The process starts with a small meeting by the team curriculum developers, then the results are discussed in a large meeting that involve all school stakeholders. Final outcome of the meeting presented to the school committee. After reaching an agreement, it is held workshop to develop a curriculum, where the possibility of changein the school's vision. If necessary, the principal assigns the task to develop a vision and mission that is in accordance with the planning and programs that will be implemented.

There are strategies to ensure that educational planning meets The needs of students involve adjusting to the current character of children. Character education is asystem of instilling values in school residentswhich includes knowledge, awareness, willingness, and action to form useful individuals, both to God, oneself, the environment, and nationality. Character education is carried out with an emphasis on in the active learning process, where students are the center of the learning (Ichsan andHadiyanto, 2021). The school has made a program special class or abbreviated as PK which includes the memorization of the Qur'an, in line with with the hope of parents so that children have good character. Now The principal focuses on developing the character of students in accordance with the vision school mission aimed at "Creatingan Islamic Generation", which is related to Morals.

There is a systematic evaluation to assess the effectiveness of planning education that has been implemented in schools. This evaluation process involves various activities, such as official meetings, evaluations and coaching, as well as meetings other information. Evaluation is carried out every month with a focus on activities teaching and learning, which aims to ensure that all programs run as planned.As part of habituation, there is a special program that It is carried out every morning, namely Munfarid activities. Activities carried out such as congregational dhuha prayers, reading dhuha prayers together, and reciting asmaul husna. This activity not only shapes spirituality, but also strengthens the sense of togetherness among students.In addition, in the learning process, supervision which is part of the evaluation at the official meeting. In this meeting, the head of the school provides feedback on aspects that need to be improved. It is hoped that there will be continuous improvement in the quality of teaching, as well as Improving the professionalism and performance of educators in schools in achieving better educational goals.

Management of Educators and Education Personnel

The management of educators and education personnel in MTs Negeri 4 has a very vital role in efforts to improve the quality of education Given. In order to achievethis goal, the school establishes cooperation with a third party to bring in competent trainers, who will provide quality training to educators. Each year, at least one Training activities are held with a more applicative approach, not just theories, so that educators can continue to apply the knowledge gained in classroom teaching practice. This training is usually attended by two people representatives from schools who then participated in training activities in other

<https://jurnalp4i.com/index.php/manajerial>

locations. This is done because the cost of independent training tends to be quite expensive, so Cooperation with third parties is an efficient and effective solution. After The training is completed, the results and materials obtained will be disseminated to all staff lecturers in the discussion forum. This provides an opportunity for them to share experiences and discuss how to apply the new knowledge in the learning process. However, it is important to note that not all Educators can directly implement each training material in practice they. Therefore, adjustments and adaptations are needed in accordance with the needs and context of each student. In this way, it is hoped that Every educator can get the most out of the training they have attended, So that it has a positive impact on the quality of teaching and learning in madrasah. This process encourages continuous professional development for educators, which in turn will contribute to improving the quality of education in MTs N 4 Klaten.

The school determines the training needs for educators and staff education through periodic assessments, with a target of at least one training per month or everytwo months. For one semester, at least one training implemented, combining online and offline methods. Apps like Exam Blue used for semester assessments and workshops and dissemination are held for disseminate new information and skills. Cooperation with external parties, such as universities and high schools to improve the quality of training. Training is not focuses only on administration, but also on the development of teaching skills by engaging third parties. The principal also believes in the potential women in their leadership. Encourage women's involvement accordinglywith government policies. Women have a number of advantages that distinguish it frommen in the context of leadership. One of them is in making decisions. They tend to bemore sensitive to needs market and can help formulate more effective strategies (Forester et al, 2023). The school also conducted an inventory of facilities andinfrastructure for ensuring all facilities are well recorded, which is important to supportschool operations and optimizing the use of resources.

To determine the training needs of educators and personnel education, schools implement simple assessments that are carried out regularly. Each month, the school targets to carry out one training program that designed according to the professional development needs of educators. Semester assessments are also carried out by utilizingapplications such as Exam Blue and MXM Exam, which makes it easier for educatorsto manage exam questions. Through this application, educators can easily enter questions that have been are prepared into the system, making it more efficient in the evaluation process. Besides The school collaborates with various external parties, including the and other educational institutions. This collaboration doesn't just provideaccess to educators to gain new knowledge, but also allowing them to learn from the experience of more professionals experienced in their fields (Efendi and Sholeh, 2023).With the exchange knowledge and best practices, teachers can adapt teaching methodsthat more innovative and effective. Overall, all of these efforts contribute to improving the quality of education at MTs N 4 Klaten by creating an environment learn better. Italso plays an important role in shaping the next generation who excel in science and technology, so that students do not are not only ready to face the challenges of academics, but also able to compete in the era of Global. Thus, the development of teacher professionalism is one of the The main pillar in creating quality education andrelevant to the needs of the times.

CONCLUSION

Effective leadership as shown by Mrs. Muslikhah in MTs Negeri 4 Klaten is very important to improve the quality of education. Head Schools need to have a clearvision and the ability to manage management school as a whole. Visionary leaders play a role in developing the vision relevant to the needs of the community, so as to strengthen the relationship between schools and communities. Leadership quality is influenced by education, Copyright (c) 2024 MANAJERIAL : Jurnal Inovasi Manajemen dan Supervisi Pendidikan

<https://jurnalp4i.com/index.php/manajerial>

experience, and emotional maturity. The decision-making process is carried out through deliberation with the team of deputy heads of the Sekolah, where the final decision remains is the responsibility of the principal. Educational planning involves a team curriculum development that formulates a curriculum based on output, input, implementation, and assessment. Before the new school year, the team conducted a deliberation to plan education that leads to the preparation of vision and mission school. Character education is the main focus with an active approach that placing students as the center of learning. Evaluation conducted systematically through meetings and routine activities.

The management of education at MTs Negeri 4 Klaten involves cooperation with third parties to provide quality training. Training is carried out at least once a year with an applicative approach and the results are disseminated to the entire staff. Periodic assessments are used to determine training needs and using Exam Blue to facilitate evaluation management. Cooperation with other universities and instances is very important to improve the quality of Training. Overall, these efforts contribute to quality improvement education at MTs Negeri 4 Klaten creates a better learning environment and prepare students to compete in the global era. Development Teacher professionalism is one of the main pillars in creating education quality and relevant.

REFERENCES

- Bashori, et al. (2020) "Peran kepemimpinan di lembaga pendidikan islam." *Produ: Prokurasi Edukasi Jurnal Manajemen Pendidikan Islam* 2.1
- Efendi, Nur, and Muh Ibnu Sholeh. "Manajemen pendidikan dalam meningkatkan mutu pembelajaran." *Academicus: Journal of Teaching and Learning* 2.2 (2023): 68-85.
- Erlena, Erlena. "Peran Kepemimpinan Kepala Sekolah Dalam Meningkatkan Mutu Pendidikan." *Jurnal Manajemen Pendidikan Al Hadi* 2.2 (2022): 23-29.
- Fitri, Anisa Aulia, and Tirta Permatasari. "Kepemimpinan Kepala Sekolah." *Innovative: Journal Of Social Science Research* 2.1 (2022): 669 677.
- Ichsan, Fauqa Nuri. "Implementasi perencanaan pendidikan dalam meningkatkan karakter bangsa melalui penguatan pelaksanaan kurikulum." *Al-Riwayah: Jurnal Kependidikan* 13.2 (2021): 281-300.
- Khosyi'in, Ahmad. (2021) "Peran Kepemimpinan Kepala Sekolah, Pengambilan Keputusan, Dan Budaya Organisasi Terhadap Disiplin Kerja." *Chalim Journal of Teaching and Learning* 1.1: 45-55.
- Musaddad, A. (2020). Kepemimpinan Kepala Sekolah Perspektif Teori Kepemimpinan Perilaku: (studi kasus di sebuah Sekolah Menengah Kejuruan (SMK) Swasta Kabupaten Situbondo). *Nusantara Journal of Islamic Studies*, 1(1), 74-81.
- Muslimin, Ikhwanul, Addin Arsyadana, and Hasbi Assyiddiqi Bimasbuqin. "Perencanaan Pengembangan Kurikulum Berbasis Kurikulum Merdeka di Madrasah Aliyah Negeri Se-Kabupaten Kediri." *Jurnal Pendidikan Sultan Agung* 3.2 (2023): 134-143.
- Nasution, Sonya Liani, Euis Indah Kesuma Ningsih, and Neliwati Neliwati. "Peran Kepemimpinan Kepala Sekolah Dalam Meningkatkan Kualitas Pendidikan." *Jurnal Pendidikan dan Konseling (JPDK)* 5.4 (2023): 862-872. Permendiknas no 63 tahun 2009
- Ramadhan, Muhammad. *Metode penelitian*. Cipta Media Nusantara, 2021.
- Rimbawan, Teguh, Ari Susantiaji, and Ardina Wuri Hermayanti. (2023) "Pengaruh Pemimpin Perempuan terhadap Kinerja Keuangan Perusahaan." *PERMANA: Jurnal Perpajakan, Manajemen, Dan Akuntansi* 15.1 49-63.
- Siswandi (2023). *Konsep dasar kepemimpinan Pendidikan*. Selat Malaka
- Copyright (c) 2024 MANAJERIAL : Jurnal Inovasi Manajemen dan Supervisi Pendidikan

<https://jurnalp4i.com/index.php/manajerial>

- Setiani, Y. A. et. al, (2023). Kepemimpinan Dan Gaya Manajemen : Studi Literature. Jurnal Riset dan Inovasi Manajemen Vol.1, No.3
- Supriyanto, A. (2009) "Mutu Pendidikan Sekolah Dasar di Daerah Diseminasi Primary Education Quality Improvement Project (PEQIP)". Jurnal Ilmu Pendidikan Universitas Negeri Malang 4.4 hal. 221.
- Suryadi et. al. (1994) Analisis Kebijakan Pendidikan (suatu pengantar). Bandung: Penerbit Remaja Rosdakarya
- Syahputra, F. P. et. al. (2023), Pengaruh Kepemimpinan Dan Motivasi Terhadap Kinerja Pegawai Dinas Tenaga Kerja Dan Perindustrian Kota Padang. Jurnal Economina, Vol. 02 No 5.
- Syahputra, M. R, and T. Darmansah. "Fungsi Kaderisasi Dalam Meningkatkan Kualitas Kepemimpinan." Journal Of Education And Teaching Learning (JETL) 2.3 (2020): 20-28.
- Utu, N.M. dan Sintasari (2021), Kepemimpinan Kepala Madrasah Dalam Peningkatan Mutu Pendidikan di Mts Miftahul Ulum Cermenan Jombang, Jurnal Studi Kemahasiswaan Vol. 1 No. 1