

School Governance, Financial Management and Learners' Classroom Needs: Perspectives of Primary School Teachers

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KEYWORDS Teacher Participation. Decision-making. Stakeholder Participation. Participative Management

ABSTRACT The core responsibility of the school is to educate its learner population. For this to happen, school governance is critical, and policy imperatives require active participation of all key stakeholders, including teachers. Teachers as both members of the School Governing Body (SGB) and ordinary classroom teachers, have the responsibility to ensure that the school budget responds to classroom learner needs. Therefore, their participation in financial management is important. Given this background, a case study of two primary schools, purposively selected, was conducted. Semi-structured interviews and document analysis were used to generate data. Four teachers, two from each school were interviewed. The findings revealed that although teachers wanted to play a meaningful role in the decisions about financial issues in their schools, their participation was largely superficial and cosmetic.