

ABSTRACT

Internal efficiency as a measure of school effectiveness is seen in terms of the flow of students in a school system and their performance at the end of an educational cycle. Internal efficiency is basically dependent on physical, monetary and human resources all of which can be expressed in monetary terms. This study looked at the nature and impact of resource mobilization strategies like user fee, state subsidy, student labour, community funds, NGO funds, income generation activities and schools foundations on internal efficiency measured in terms of the levels of retention, repetition and performance of students. A descriptive survey research design was used. The study used 61 schools out of a sample of 72 public schools in the district. A stratified random sampling technique was used. A head teacher's questionnaire was used to collect data from the schools in addition to an observation schedule and an interview schedule. Reliability of the instrument was ascertained using a test - retest procedure getting a Pearson's correlation coefficient of 0.70. Research and Educational Economics specialists from the University of Nairobi were consulted to help validate the instruments. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyse the data. Findings indicated that more financial resources resulted into enhanced internal efficiency. The regression analysis results showed that student performance as a measure of internal efficiency had positive relationship with all the considered resource mobilisation strategies. Retention rates had positive relationship with all the strategies in question apart from community funds which showed a negative relationship. Finally, repetition rates had a positive variation with income generating activities and state subsidy. The strategies of user fees, community funds and student labour however had negative relationship with repetition rates. The study recommended that schools should exploit the resources at their disposal effectively and efficiently to reduce the cost of education and cut down wastage in schools. Also the school managers should ensure that schools are run as business entities whose profitability relies on the ability to manipulate available resources to enhance performance, increase retention rates and reduce repetition rates.