FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE PERFORMANCE OF MATHEMATICS IN MARIIRA SECONDARY SCHOOL OF KIGUMO EDUCATION ZONE MARAGUA DISTRICT.

BY

KABUI NYAMBURA RUTH

L40/P/9255/04

PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT FOR POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

2007
ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to investigate into factors that influence performance of Mathematics in Mariira secondary school of Kigumo Education Zone Maragua district. Great importance is attached to education by stakeholders especially the results of Kenya certificate of Secondary Education. Mathematics as a core subject in Kenya certificate of secondary education syllabus continue to record poor performance in Mariira secondary school. The researcher found it necessary to investigate into factors that influence performance of Mathematics in the school.

Literature review was carried out on various factors such as resource input, student attitude and career aspirations, teaching methods, teachers attitudes and qualifications and evaluation to find out their influence on the performance.

After collecting the data from students and teachers through questionnaires the findings were as follows.

That students attitude has a direct influence on the poor performance of Mathematics.

- Teaching methods influences performance
- Teachers qualification and experiences has very little influence on performance of mathematics.
- Evaluation influence the performance of subject
- Teachers attitude influence the performance of mathematics.

Therefore to enhance performance of Mathematics in Mariira Secondary School the following recommendation should be done. Varieties of mathematics text books should be provided by both the school and parents.
- The teachers should utilize the knowledge attained during seminars for mathematics.
- The school administration should motivate the teachers.
- Teachers workload should be reduced to manageable level for better performance.

There is a gap in the research since other factors also influence the performance of Mathematics example gender bias and therefore further research into the problem should be done.