

Abstract:

The purpose of the study was to find out factors influencing implementation of Free Secondary Education in public schools in Kiamokama Division, Masaba South District, Kenya. The objectives of the study were: to find out the financial management of FSE funds, staffing level of teachers, how Educational facilities influence implementation of FSE, the perception of the various stakeholders to FSE. The significance of the study was to enable policy makers, parents, and teachers, Board of governors, Non - governmental organizations to be involved in the improvement of access to educational opportunities. Data was collected from a population of eighteen public secondary schools. The instruments of data collection were questionnaires, use of interview and observation. The target population involved 18 public schools, the accessible population focused on Principals, P. T .A, Chairpersons of Parents Teachers Association, form three students and class teachers. The study employed a combination of random sampling procedure and purposive sampling techniques to select actual respondents. The research design was descriptive survey while that of data analysis was qualitative and quantitative techniques. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics which includes frequencies, percentages and averages. After data analysis and interpretation the results were discussed and conclusions arrived. The results revealed average knowledge on the disbursement and accounting procedures of FSE funds, inadequate disbursement in terms of frequency, and irregular amounts with unclear accounting procedures and understaffing of teachers employed by Teachers Service Commission with a ratio of 1 :35 (teacher to student). The study revealed both the presence and absence of educational facilities in the visited schools especially classrooms, laboratories and pit latrines. It was revealed that parents perceived FSE to be completely free; but principals congratulate the Government for the introduction of FSE. The recommendations, the government should increase funds required for infrastructural facilities, effective disbursement and accounting procedures of FSE funds, TSC to employ more teachers and induction of stakeholders in order to attain implementation of Free Secondary Education in Kenya.