



LEADERSHIP OF SCHOOL PRINCIPLES IN INCREASING STUDENTS' LEARNING MOTIVATION FOR ONLINE-BASED FINAL EXAMS AT SMP NEGERI 1 KOTA SIGLI

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ABSTRACT

Principal leadership has an important role in increasing student motivation to face online-based final exams, because it greatly influences the progress of students and schools, because the lack of motivation of students to prepare for online-based final exams makes the achievements achieved by students of SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City often decreased. The purpose of this study was to determine the principal's leadership in increasing student learning motivation in facing online-based final exams, the principal's leadership strategy in increasing student learning motivation in facing online-based final exams and the constraints of students' learning motivation in facing online-based exams. This type of research is descriptive qualitative research. Observation data collection techniques, interviews, and documentation. The subjects of this study were school principals, teachers and students. The results showed that the principal's leadership strategy in increasing students' learning motivation in facing online-based final exams was carried out by providing various learning facilities and infrastructure, asking teachers to familiarize students with learning to answer previous year's exam questions, providing special study hours online-based exam methods and holding extra hours in the afternoon. Obstacles facing online-based exams are the limited support facilities for online-based exams, the lack of student awareness and the lack of support from students' families

Keywords: *Leadership, Principal, Learning Motivation, Online Examination*

INTRODUCTION

The school principal is an educational leader at the education unit level, who must be responsible for the progress and decline of the school he leads and has a strong leadership base (Tarhid, 2017). The principal is responsible for micro education management, which is directly related to the learning process. Basically, school management is the responsibility of the principal and teachers. However, the ability of the Principal to lead the school system greatly influences the implementation of good management. Principal leadership should be able to create conditions that allow for the birth of a harmonious and conducive work climate and human relations (Mawaddah et al., 2020).

As a manager, the principal must be able to utilize all school resources in order to realize the vision and mission to achieve the goals that have been set. In addition, the principal must be able to deal with various problems in school, think analytically and conceptually and must always try to be an intermediary teacher in solving various problems faced by the education staff who become his subordinates, and try to make decisions that are satisfactory for all (Muslim et al., 2020).

To increase student motivation in conducting learning evaluations, sometimes the principal changes the approach and evaluation methods from traditional/conventional approaches and methods to online-based approaches and methods, this is none other than to increase student motivation in conducting student learning evaluations so that what what students want to measure is more effective and efficient.

SMP Negeri 1 Kota Sigli is one of the junior high schools that already uses an online-based student evaluation approach. In searching for study materials SMP Negeri 1 Kota Sigli has been supported by the use of the internet, both paid and free. Teachers at SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City are also familiar with hardware devices as facilities to facilitate the making of teaching materials and the like, some teachers at SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City have used online-based student evaluation in teaching and learning activities, but some teachers at SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City also still uses traditional/conventional evaluation of students in the learning process.

Based on the results of observations and interviews with students, it is known that in general they prefer online-based evaluation because it is more interesting and they cannot cheat, but there are some students who like traditional/conventional evaluation approaches because they can compromise on other friends and so on. From this description the author concludes that

students' interest in online-based final exam approaches and methods is based on their motivation in facing the final exam, but at SMP Negeri 1 Kota Sigli there is no data or study on the level of students' motivation towards online-based method approaches in increasing motivation. learn students.

METHODS

The approach used in this research is a qualitative approach. This type of research used is descriptive method. The object of this study is the principal's leadership in increasing students' motivation to face online-based final exams and their difficulties. As for the primary data used in this study in the form of interviews with key informants, documentation and results of field observations. While secondary data is in the form of reference books and other scientific studies. The informants in this study consisted of school principals, teachers and students, using the interactive analysis model proposed by Sugiyono, namely data collection, data reduction, data presentation and drawing conclusions (Esa Fitriana et al., 2021).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The leadership of the school principal in motivating his students to be ready to take online-based final exams at SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City is carried out in various ways, namely by holding parent, student and teacher partnerships. In this case, collaboration is carried out via short messages, telephone, and creating special homeroom whatsapp groups with parents of students, to inform the progress of their children while at school or at home. Collaboration between the principal and the teacher by holding tutoring for students when the teaching and learning process is finished so as not to disturb school hours, and aims for students to be able to review the learning that has been given by the teacher and help students not have difficulties when they are going to face exams.

The principal becomes a leader for students in the form of giving rewards or gifts to students who excel. In this case the principal as a leader must be able to encourage the emergence of a strong will with enthusiasm and confidence for teachers, staff and students in carrying out their respective tasks. The head's leadership can also be seen by making himself a manager for students by providing special regulations for students in the form of tutoring/tutoring rules that must be followed by all students. The principal becomes a motivator where students are given material related to learning motivation, how to foster learning motivation and how to maintain learning motivation for future success. This is as stated by Nanang Fattah the functions and responsibilities of the principal are as managers who manage planning, organizing, implementing, leading and controlling the efforts of members of the organization and utilizing

all organizational resources in order to achieve the goals that have been set (Jamaludin et al., 2022).

The leadership of the principal at SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City is also seen to have innovation in dealing with online-based exams by providing additional hours for all class IX students at SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City, which according to Mulyasa will be reflected in the ways he does his work constructively, creatively, delegatively, integratively, rationally and objectively, pragmatically, exemplarily, disciplined and adaptable and flexible, as well as being able to seek, find, and carry out various reforms in schools (SASQIA, 2020).

The principal is also an administrator in increasing student motivation for online exams. In this case the principal is responsible for the smooth implementation of education and teaching in his school. Covers all school activities, such as; teaching and learning processes, education, personnel, infrastructure, administration and finance as well as managing school relations with the community. In addition, the principal is responsible for the state of the school environment. Has a very close relationship with various administrative management activities that are recording, compiling, and documenting all school programs.

The leadership of the principal of SMP Negeri 1 Kota Sigli in increasing student motivation in facing online-based final exams is to make himself a supervisor which according to Mulyasa is the main activity of education in schools in order to realize its goals are learning activities, so that all school organizational activities boil down to on the achievement of efficiency and effectiveness of learning. One of the duties of the principal is as a supervisor, namely supervising the work carried out by educational staff.

The principal as the highest leader at SMP Negeri 1 Kota Sigli, of course, has a big responsibility for the graduation of his students. Therefore the principal of SMP Negeri 1 Kota Sigli has made various efforts or strategies to increase the learning motivation of his students so that they are able to answer various questions faced in the online-based exam. The strategy carried out by the principal of SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City in increasing the learning motivation of their students in facing online-based final exams, includes involving teachers in preparing for the implementation of online-based final exams at SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City, providing various learning facilities and infrastructure, providing special study hours for online-based exam procedures, holding additional hours in the afternoon.

The explanation above according to Lukman where the principal's leadership and student learning motivation are several variables that also

influence student learning achievement. To achieve the success of the principal's leadership requires knowledge and the ability to create a conducive working situation and climate, so as to generate motivation to learn in students. In addition to motivating students, they must also be able to provide role models or good examples to students, in order to develop an effective learning process.

In an effort to motivate students to be ready for online-based final exams, school principals face various problems, including limited online-based exam support facilities in the form of computers or the like. Even though supporting facilities and infrastructure are very important in carrying out online-based final exams, as stated by Anita that educational infrastructure is an educational facility that supports all implementation of educational activities can be known from 3 things observed, starting from specifications school server computer, participant computer specifications and network specifications as well as the room that must be provided and various supporting equipment directly related to computer-based national exams.

In addition to this, the lack of awareness of students is also an obstacle for teachers and principals in motivating learning in facing final exams among students of SMP Negeri 1 Kota Sigli, namely the low level of awareness of students. Some students underestimate what is conveyed by the teacher, even some students who are often found not to be present, in fact, often do not come when given by the teacher. This is in accordance with a study conducted by Hermiyuni which stated that there were still students who considered the exam something trivial, this was due to a lack of appreciation by students for consulting teachers regarding solving questions that were considered difficult. Even though teachers have provided space for consultations, only a small number of them carry out consultations (Winingsih, 2017). In fact, this consultation was held to provide space for students in mastering exam materials and solving problems with material that is considered difficult.

Even though students have increased their learning hours, this is not enough if they don't care about what their teacher has prepared for readiness to master student exam material. The teachers have provided so much guidance, direction and motivation to students, but most of the students, especially in the Computer and Network Engineering (TKJ) major, did not care about the guidance and directions of the teachers. It is this indifferent attitude of students that makes them lack mastery of the material, so technically they may not get into trouble, but they will have difficulty answering exam questions due to lack of material preparation Hermiyuni. Meanwhile, another obstacle is the lack of support from students' families to control whether or not their children go to school, and some families don't even pay attention to their children's learning.

CONCLUSION

The leadership of the school principal in motivating his students to be ready to take the online-based final exam at SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City can be seen from holding a partnership of parents, students, and teachers. Collaboration between principals and teachers, principals become leaders for students, make themselves managers for students, principals become motivators, have innovations in dealing with exams and become administrators and supervisors.

The principal's leadership strategy in increasing students' learning motivation for facing online-based final exams at SMP Negeri 1 Sigli City is carried out by providing various learning facilities and infrastructure, asking teachers to familiarize students with learning to answer questions from the previous year's exams, providing study hours specifically for online-based exam procedures and holding additional hours in the afternoon. The obstacles to students' learning motivation in facing online-based exams at SMP Negeri 1 Kota Sigli are the limited supporting facilities for online-based exams, the lack of awareness of students and the lack of support from students' families.

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