

PRINCIPAL POLICY EVALUATION METHOD IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION AT AL-HAMIDY KEBON TALO HIGH SCHOOL

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Abstract. This study aims to describe the method of evaluating the principal's policy in improving the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo. This study uses a descriptive qualitative method. Data collection techniques are carried out by interviews, observations, and documentation. The sources in this study were the Principal, Wakakurikulum, and Teachers of MA Al-Hamidy. Data were analyzed by data reduction, data presentation, and verification. The results of the study are that in improving the quality of education at MA Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo, an appropriate policy evaluation method is needed by the principal. Because the evaluation helps in improving previous policies by considering their impacts. The principal needs to involve school residents in discussions to ensure that the policies taken are right on target. One of the indicators of the results of the principal's policy evaluation in improving the quality of education is the improvement of facilities and teacher competence in the IT field.

Keywords: Policy Evaluation Method, Education Quality

INTRODUCTION

According to Ilham Ilham (2021) Education is a matter Which very important in determine development And embodiment self individual, And for life a nation. Realize in this regard the role of education is very important as booster progress anation, so government always make an effort For stage updates in the field education especially Which related with power education, financing, curriculum, And other and so on is improvement quality education. Meanwhile, in the research of Saniyah Oktarisma (2016) it is explained that schools are responsible for producing young generations who have intellectual intelligence (IQ), emotional intelligence (EQ), and spiritual intelligence (ESQ), so that the quality of education is very important. Therefore, as a leader, the principal must have the ability to produce graduates who are in accordance with national standards and in accordance with the school's vision and mission. Quality education is not only measured by the number of students who graduate, but also by how educational institutions can meet the needs of education personnel, students, parents, and the community with appropriate quality standards.

Madrasah Aliyah Al-Hamidy is an educational institution that plays an important role in providing high-quality education to students in an Islamic-based environment. This institution also faces many challenges and obstacles when looking at education today. One of the responsibilities of Madrasah Aliyah Al-Hamidy as an Islamic educational institution is to not only provide academic lessons but also to shape students' characters according to Islamic values. The number of challenges faced by Madrasah Aliyah Al-hamidy affects the quality of education provided. Technological advances and increasing public expectations for the quality of education are challenges. To overcome this problem, Madrasah Aliyah Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo must improve and enhance its education policies.

Idrus L (2019) & D. and Wahyudhiana (1993) explained that one of the strategic steps in this process is the policy evaluation method. because evaluation is one of the many activities



carried out in the process of implementing educational policies and programs. Through this method, information about what has been achieved and what has not been achieved by the program can be collected and used to improve the program. The evaluation results show what has been achieved and whether the program can meet the criteria. Furthermore, it is decided whether the program and policy should be continued, revised, stopped, or reformulated to find new goals, objectives, and alternatives. By conducting policy evaluations, madrasahs can systematically evaluate the success, efficiency, and relevance of existing education policies. This also allows them to find which parts need to be improved .

Based on the results of initial observations that the principal carried out several methods to evaluate policies in improving the quality of education, namely by conducting observations and open discussions with school residents to collect data related to the impact or results of previously implemented policies. From the results of the evaluation of the principal's policies that need to be improved and enhanced, namely the availability of existing facilities and infrastructure, as well as the development of teacher competence and creativity, especially in the IT field, because this is one of the challenges for schools by further improving IT skills for teachers and students, because most students' abilities in the IT field are very lacking, such as students are still confused about operating computers or laptops. This is because IT facilities are still lacking at MA Al-Hamidy, and make learning activities that use computers limited. For this reason, the policy carried out by the principal in overcoming these obstacles, the principal improves facilities and infrastructure, especially in the IT field, as well as development of teacher competence by supporting activities that can improve teacher competence in the IT field such as participating in various trainings, both offline and online. In this case, the principal can improve the quality of education at MA Al-Hamidy and can overcome various challenges, especially in the IT field. Through appropriate policy evaluation, Madrasah Aliyah Al-Hamidy can identify effective policies in improving the quality of education and formulate improvement strategies that can overcome various challenges faced.

Based on the description above, the researcher is interested in conducting a more in-depth study on the evaluation of the principal's policy in improving the quality of education by raising the topic : "Evaluation Method of the Principal's Policy in Improving the Quality of Education at MA Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo " .

METHOD

Based on the focus of the problem in this study, namely "Evaluation Method of Principal's Policy in Improving the Quality of Education at MA Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo". So the research approach used in this study is a descriptive qualitative approach. The researcher chose this qualitative approach so that the researcher can obtain broader and deeper information regarding the focus of the problem that must be answered in this study. The data collection techniques used are observation, documentation and interviews. As for the data analysis technique, the researcher uses a data analysis procedure in accordance with the explanation according to Miles, Huberman in Sugiyono (2018; 321) that the stages carried out in data analysis are; First, reduce the data where if the data obtained from the field is quite a lot, then the researcher needs to summarize and choose the things that are the focus of the problem in this study, then present the data, in presenting the data from the interviews that have been conducted and the researcher has summarized and grouped, then the researcher presents it according to the focus of the problem in this study and the last step in data analysis is drawing conclusions according to the data that has been obtained and presented according to the focus



of the problem in this study, namely "the method of evaluating the principal's policy in improving the quality of education at MA Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo".

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Madrasah Aliyah Al Hamidy Kebon Talo is an educational institution under the auspices of the Al Hamidy Kebon Talo Islamic Boarding School Education Foundation. It was founded in 2004 by the late Tgh. Badrun Hamid, a student of the late Tgh. Ibrahim Al-Khalidy, Founder of the Al-Islahuddiny Islamic Boarding School, Kediri, West Lombok. and, until 2017, has made a significant contribution in teaching hundreds of teachers in West Lombok Regency and Central Lombok Regency . However, due to the progress that has occurred, MA Al-Hamidy faces increasingly fierce competition in science and technology. To remain relevant and develop in accordance with the times, innovation and adaptation are needed. Thus, the principal of Madrasah Aliyah Al Hamidy Kebon Talo must take strategic actions to improve the quality of education. This can be achieved through the use of an appropriate policy evaluation approach. I Wayan Tagel Winarta (2020) & Rohmania Mustarif, *et al.* (2024) explains that policy evaluation assesses whether a policy will have a positive impact or make a better change than before. In other words, policy evaluation is the work of estimating, evaluating, or assessing a policy.

According to Fazza Erwina Dwi et al (2024) & AP Sari, WS Putra, *et al* (2023) education policy evaluation is a series of actions aimed at determining whether education policies can have a real impact on the audience by meeting several criteria. This process is carried out during the implementation of education policies to determine whether the policy is functioning properly and what needs to be improved. Schools can find out the advantages and disadvantages when education policies are implemented. In addition, it is very important to know the impact of education policies, whether they generate profits or losses, cause conflict, and so on. The process or activity of evaluating education policies is usually carried out sequentially and is the final stage of the policy analysis process; however, in the management stage, evaluation activities are the final stage of the policy-making process that allows input for improving education policies. However, according to Robit Azam Jaysurrohman et al (2021) in his research, he explained the opinions of experts that evaluation of education policy is not the last step in the policy process. This is because policy evaluation is carried out during the analysis process, considering whether the policy program is successful or not according to expectations. Because policies often do not achieve their goals or intentions .

Based on these Policy evaluation methods are defined as a set of methods used to evaluate the performance, effectiveness, and impact of a policy. The main purpose of this method is to provide a better understanding of whether the policy has succeeded in achieving its intended purpose or whether they can provide input that can be used to improve or change policies in the future. Based on the results of an interview with the principal, he said:

“ Policy evaluation is the right way to achieve the goal of improving the quality of education. Because policy evaluation allows schools to make decisions or what actions should be taken or what policies should be improved to improve the quality of education and achieve these goals.”

In the implementation of policy evaluation, of course there are several indicators that are used as material for improvement or enhancement based on the results of policy evaluations that have been carried out previously. Especially in achieving the goal of improving the quality of education. The results of an interview with the Principal of MA Al-Hamidy, he said:

"There are several indicators that must be fixed or improved in improving the quality of education, seen from the impacts resulting from previous policies that the availability of IT facilities is lacking, many students are left behind in today's digital challenges, many students are not yet able to operate computers properly, in addition to looking at current developments, the continuity and smoothness of teaching and learning activities are very dependent on the completeness of facilities and infrastructure, especially facilities in the IT field and teacher competence, for that the policy evaluation that needs to be improved is by optimizing facilities and infrastructure, especially in the IT field, as well as developing teacher competence in the IT field, ".



Figure 1. Computer practice activities in class by taking turns

This was also conveyed by one of the teachers at Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo Islamic High School, that:

"From the results of the policy evaluation that the principal implemented as an improvement in the quality of education is very appropriate, because improving facilities and infrastructure in the IT field and developing teacher competencies in the IT field are also relevant indicators in evaluating the success of the policy. Advances in information and communication technology (ICT) can help improve the effectiveness of learning, expand access to educational resources, and prepare students for the demands of an increasingly digital world of work. As a result, investment in IT infrastructure and developing teacher competencies in the use of this technology can make a positive contribution to achieving educational goals in schools. For this reason, the principal strives to optimize facilities and infrastructure, especially in the IT field, to be further improved. and improving the facilities currently available is very helpful, with the availability of a Computer Lap room, internet access (wifi) and also sufficient computer facilities that are available can facilitate students and teachers in improving student abilities in the IT field, because it makes it easier for students to understand informatics lessons that have been explained in theory by students doing direct computer practice ".



Figure 2 Lab room. MA Al-Hamidy Computers

This was also conveyed by the Deputy Head of the Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo Islamic Senior High School, that:

“The evaluation of the policy carried out by the principal is very influential in improving the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Al-Hamidy, because looking at current developments, digitalization has become a demand, even a daily need and the Madrasah must be able to adjust to that direction. For this reason, the evaluation of the policy that the principal increases and improves is by improving digital facilities and infrastructure as well as support for the development of teacher competencies in participating in various trainings that can develop teacher competencies and skills, especially in the IT field. I think that is a concrete step by the principal in an effort to improve the quality of the madrasah. So that in the future the madrasah can continue to compete and be able to show its quality in producing quality graduates”.



Figure 3 Competency Development Activities of Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo Islamic Senior High School Teachers in the IT Field

Based on the results of interviews with the Principal, Teachers of MA Al-Hamidy and Deputy Head of Curriculum related to policy evaluation as a stage in improving the quality of education, it can be concluded that policy evaluation is the right strategy in improving the quality of education because through policy evaluation the principal can find out or measure whether the policies that have been implemented by the school are effective and efficient to

be used as the right policy to overcome the problems and challenges faced, by looking at the impacts resulting from previously implemented policies. Based on the results of the policy evaluation, improving facilities and infrastructure in the IT field and developing teacher competencies in the IT field are also relevant indicators in evaluating the success of the policy. For this reason, the principal optimizes the policy as one of the improvements in the quality of education at MA Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo.

The principal's policy evaluation method in making a policy is certainly not only based on existing conditions and problems, but deliberation and consensus between fellow school residents are also very important, because in implementing the policy, of course, all school residents are involved. If residents do not agree with the policy taken, then the policy cannot run well. For this reason, collaboration or deliberation is needed in making a policy to achieve good results, in accordance with Northouse's statement in Leithwood, K., & Jantzi, D (2000) emphasizing collaboration and involvement between leaders and members in the organization. Principals who adopt this approach usually encourage active participation and discussion to achieve common goals. This approach not only increases the effectiveness of policies but also creates a democratic environment in schools.

The results of the interview with the principal were that he said:

“ In making policies, especially in improving the quality of schools, I always look at the existing problem conditions, and then determine the right policy to overcome the problem. However, before determining a policy in building a shared success for this madrasah, of course it must be with solid unity and cooperation. Therefore, every school community has the same responsibility, even though their tasks are different. For that, as the principal, I always involve all school residents to jointly build and advance this Al-Hamidy Madrasah to be better in the future.”



Figure 4. Discussion Activities of the MA Al-Hamidy School Community

Based on the results of an interview with one of the teachers at Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo Islamic High School, that:

"Every decision-making or anything related to the school, especially in school progress, the principal always involves all school residents including us teachers. For every policy, the principal always discusses it, so that everyone agrees to implement it, and the policy taken is right on target".

Based on the results of the interview above, the principal's policy evaluation method in decision-making or policy improvement, the principal monitors or directly observes the impacts resulting from previously implemented policies. In addition, in this process, the principal does not forget to involve all school residents. Because with this method, the policy taken is right on target with all considerations and joint input.

CONCLUSION

Based on this study, it can be concluded that improving the quality of education at MA Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo requires the implementation of a systematic and comprehensive policy evaluation method by the principal. This policy evaluation plays an important role in identifying the strengths and weaknesses of previous policies, as well as providing insight to improve and refine policies in order to achieve better educational goals. The principal needs to involve all school members, including teachers, staff, students, and parents, in the discussion and deliberation process. This active participation ensures that the policies taken are more relevant and in accordance with the needs of the school and are able to answer the challenges faced. Policy evaluation carried out by the principal should not only focus on solving problems, but also on the long-term impact on the quality of education in schools. One indicator of the success of this policy evaluation is the improvement of educational facilities, such as facilities and infrastructure that support the teaching and learning process, and the improvement of teacher competence, especially in the field of information technology (IT). Mastery of technology by teachers will facilitate more modern and relevant learning with the times, which will ultimately improve the quality of education at MA Al-Hamidy Kebon Talo.

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