

ABSTRACT

SRIMAK, PICHATE. Institute of Graduate Studies, Central Luzon State University, Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, March 1993. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE-YEAR EXTENDED PRIMARY EDUCATION PROGRAM IN REGION VII, THAILAND : AN ASSESSMENT.

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The purpose of the study was to find out how the respondents perceived the context, inputs and process of the three-year extended primary education program in Region 7, Thailand and to determine its effectiveness, strengths and weaknesses.

The multi-stage random sampling method was used in this study. A total of 290 respondents (41 teachers, 103 parents of students who are involved in the program, 32 parents of students who are not involved in the program and 114 students) from four schools, four districts and four provinces participating in the study. Data were gathered with the use of a questionnaire and of records filed at the sample schools. Descriptive statistics, t-test and oneway ANOVA were used in the analysis of data.

Results revealed that majority of the teachers were male with a mean age of 36.43 years. Almost all the teachers (85.40%) were married and they finished bachelor's degree (92.70%). More than one-half (58.50%) had work experience of less than 15 years and had an average salary of 8,863.17 bahts. Most of them (70.70%) had other duties to perform and they had trainings or seminars about this program (85.40%). Majority (63.40%) carried a teaching load of 20 periods and above, while one-half (51.20%) of them have been teaching their major field.

More than one-half (58.30%) of the parents of the students who were involved in the program that were interviewed were fathers with a mean age of 42.16 years, finished compulsory education (Grade 4), and engaged in agriculture. They had an average income per month of 1,834.85 bahts and an average family size of 5. Majority (68%) had attended meetings about this program.

Majority (75%) of the parents of the students who were not involved in the program that were interviewed were fathers with a mean age of 52.09 years, finished compulsory education (Grade 4). More than one-half (53.10%) were engaged in agriculture with

an average monthly income of 988.43 bahts. Their average family size was 7 persons. Majority (68.70%) did not attend meetings about this program.

Slightly more than one-half (51.80%) of the students involved in the program were male. The mean distance of their homes from school was 2.83 kilometers and majority (50%) went to school by bicycle. The average expenditure per day was 4.50 bahts. Approximately one-half (49.10%) of them were willing to study in this program.

The teachers and the parents of students who are involved in the program perceived the context, inputs, and process as satisfactory. The parents of the students who are not in the program perceived the context as fairly satisfactory. The students perception of the inputs of the program was satisfactory. Likewise significant differences among the perceptions of the respondent groups were noted.

Program effectiveness had a weighted rank of 2.83 described as fairly high.

The strength of the program was the first that it was free, but its weakness was its lack of teaching aids, textbooks, and very late delivery of instructional materials from the government.