

**THE ROLE OF HEAD TEACHERS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE KENYA
CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION PERFORMANCE IN PUBLIC
SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN TURKANA COUNTY, KENYA**

JOHN LOKURUKA NAPOO

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Mount Kenya University

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ABSTRACT

The role of the Principal or Head Teacher as a managerial leader is critical in creating conditions that lead to higher academic performance; thus public secondary schools in Turkana County presenting students for KCSE examinations have strived to provide quality education to achieve improved academic performance. This study examined the role of Head Teachers in the Management of the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education Performance in Public Secondary Schools in Turkana County. The study adopted descriptive survey design with a total of 7 head teachers purposively included and 160 teachers selected from 16 public secondary schools. Questionnaire and interview schedule were instruments used to collect data from teachers and head teachers respectively. The instruments were tested in three public secondary schools and a reliability coefficient of 0.7 was obtained. Three research questions were answered. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics which involved use of mean, frequency and percentage. Data collected was entered into a computer program, Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 17. The findings of the study suggested that to improve performance in KCSE, availability of teaching and learning resources, good teacher-head teacher working relationship, teacher quality and consultative decision making process should be enhanced. The study also observed that lack of parental involvement was the main challenge that Head Teachers faced in the management of the KCSE performance. In light of these findings, the study concluded that head teachers successfully performed their role of managing the KCSE performance and to achieve excellent academic performance moral support, commitment and collective responsibility is required from all stakeholders.