EFFECT OF SMASSE PROGRAMME ON THE PERFORMANCE OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCES IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THARAKA NITHI COUNTY, KENYA.

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ABSTRACT

Generally, teachers do not take time to consider why the performance of their students does not reflect the efforts the teachers and students put in during the many teaching and learning activities. Over the years, mathematics and science have performed decimally. Perhaps it would be worthwhile for teachers, and not the students, to ponder as to what goes wrong during the delivery of instructional material. This gives the teachers the opportunity to deal on the major concerns that they must bear in mind before going to class. This study highlights the concerns on why students perform poorly in mathematics and sciences. It identifies the most common approaches and in instructional methods that teachers have relied on for many years to deliver their content. Additionally, it outlines the major challenges that the teaching and learning of sciences has encountered, and more closely, attitude and interest. The study has also articulated on some major recommendations aimed at helping students improve their performance in mathematics and sciences. The study is therefore aimed at investigating the effect of SMASSE program on the performance of mathematics and sciences in secondary schools in Tharaka Nithi County. The study employed a descriptive survey research design and the instruments used for data collection were a questionnaire and an interview guide. The target population for this study was all secondary schools in Tharaka Nithi County. The study sample size used was ten students in the form three classes, four teachers and a head teacher in each of the school visited. Purposeful sampling criterion was adopted in selecting the respondents. In the study, data was analyzed using descriptive statistics, with the help of the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) computer program. It is hoped that the findings obtained here will be helpful in the teaching and learning of mathematics and sciences in secondary schools and that they will immensely contribute to improved performance in these subjects that are currently underperformed.