Abstract

The purpose of this research is to study the status of the management of school co-operatives in Sarawak. Specifically this study will investigate the views of the teachers-in-charge of the school co-operatives as to what constitutes effective management and what they perceived is actually happening in the management of the school co-operatives in their respective school. Besides that, it seeks to see whether there is any discrepancies between the perception of school co-operative teachers towards effective management and their corresponding current practices. It will also solicit views as to how best to improve further the management of school co-operatives. A survey is done from a sample of school co-operatives in Sarawak through questionnaires. Thirty two of the school co-operatives in Sarawak responded to the survey.

All those factors affecting management of the school co-operatives put forward by the authors in the literature review was strongly agree or agreed by more than 83% of the respondents. As for the other factors not mentioned by these authors but put up by the researcher herself, it had more than 75% of the respondents strongly agreeing or agreeing. The discrepancy between the respondents' perception with regards to the management of the school co-operatives and their corresponding current practices in their respective school co-operatives in Sarawak occurs for six items only that is training of Board members, inventory control, planning of annual budget, Board meetings, commitment of Board members and leadership. Suggestions to further improve the management of school co-operatives by the respondents were also noted down.