HEADTEACHERS’ LEADERSHIP STYLES AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT IN PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN IMENTI
NORTH DISTRICT, KENYA.

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Leadership is a process of encouraging and helping other to work enthusiastically towards effective and efficient achievement of objectives. The title of the study was ”Headteachers’ leadership styles and their influence on financial management in public secondary schools in Imenti North District. The purpose was to find out if there was a relationship between the headteachers’ leadership styles and management of finances. The objectives of the study were:- to determine the extent to which the headteachers’ involved other stakeholders in financial management, to assess the headteachers’ knowledge on public accounting procedures, establish the control measures put in place, and finally to investigate the challenges faced by headteachers in financial management.

The findings revealed that all the headteachers agreed that financial constraints were a challenge. The research questions of the study were:- to what extent do the headteachers involve other stakeholders in financial management?, Are the headteachers familiar with the public accounting procedures?, what systems of internal accounting?, and finally what financial challenges are faced by headteachers?, The research questions acted as guides to the achievement of the objectives.

In order to establish whether headteachers’ leadership styles influenced financial management, a study was carried out to find out the head of departments’ and students’ perception of the headteachers’ leadership styles. The headteachers were also required to give their own perception of themselves as leaders and financial managers. The study also tried to find out whether such factors as the age, gender qualification of the headteacher and category of school affected financial management.
The study gathered the pertinent data using questionnaires and interview schedules. The research design used was descriptive survey. The research instrument was validated using the results of the pilot study conducted in five schools. The target population was 55 headteachers, 275 heads of departments and 9211 students. The sample size was 48 headteachers, 169 heads of department and 368 students.

The findings revealed that the headteachers’ leadership style affected financial management in public schools. Some headteachers involved other stakeholders, they had knowledge in financial management and faced challenges in management of finances. The study recommended that:

- A further study be carried out to investigate the perceptions of the other members of the community like the parents, bursars about the head teachers leadership style. Study can be carried out in other district to access how the head teacher leadership styles influenced financial management in public secondary schools.

- Other areas in management that might affect financial management should be investigated. The rule of other members of the auditors and other members of the community in financial management.