

Implementation of Student Management in Improving the Quality of Graduates at Sigli Uggul Education Foundation (YPPU)

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Article history Received Apr 07, 2024 Revised Nov 18, 2024 Accepted Dec 18, 2024	<p>Student management organizes and manages students from the moment they are accepted until graduation. The quality of graduates is an indicator of a school's success. This research aims to learn in-depth about implementing Student Management in Improving the Quality of Graduates at Unggul SMP Unggul Community Development Education Foundation (YPPU) Sigli, Sigli Regency. This research uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive research type. Data collection techniques include observation, interviews, and documentation. The data analysis technique used is qualitative descriptive analysis with data reduction techniques, data presentation, and conclusion. Based on research findings, it was found that: (1) Student management planning is carried out through needs analysis with how to measure student capacity, form a committee for accepting new students and disseminating information through brochures, banners, and socialization, selecting students through administrative selection, academic selection, Al-Qur'an reading selection, interview selection, and orientation through mass activities Introduction to the School Environment (MPLS); (2) Implementation of student management, namely placement of students using a heterogeneous system, guidance and development of students in academic and non-academic aspects through extracurricular activities and additional study guidance; (3) Evaluation of student management is carried out discussion, supervision and monitoring of student learning. Recording and reporting student assessments; (4) Constraints in student management include cheating in the recruitment process, obstacles in dealing with different levels of ability, interest, and motivation of students, and limited alum involvement.</p>
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I. Introduction

Education is one of the main pillars in the development of a nation. As the foundation for individual and societal development, education plays a crucial role in forming the character, knowledge, and skills needed to face the challenges of the times (Kuzminov et al., 2019; Núñez-Canal et al., 2022; Pradana et al., 2021). Through a structured and continuous learning process, education enables individuals to reach their maximum potential, opens up opportunities for access to knowledge, and builds skills that are relevant to the demands of the times (González-Pérez & Ramírez-Montoya, 2022; González-Salamanca et al., 2020; Haleem et al., 2022). In Indonesia, education itself is regulated in Law No. 20 of 2003 concerning National Education, where Article 3 explains that National Education plays a role in developing skills and forming a noble character and culture for the nation, increasing knowledge and the quality of people's lives. The primary mission is to expand the potential of students so that they become individuals who obey God

Almighty, have good morals, are healthy, knowledgeable, skilled, creative, and independent, and become members of a democratic and responsible society (Dewi & Alam, 2020; Mahdi et al., 2023; Mulayana & Sukarlina, 2019).

Education can be obtained in various ways, both informally in the family environment, formally in official educational institutions, and non-formally through interactions in society (Comănescu & Nedelea, 2020; Rahman et al., 2020; Septiana et al., 2019). Formal education occurs in institutions that have received official permission from the government to organize and manage learning activities by applicable regulations (Rosser, 2023). Every educational institution has a primary goal: to produce graduates with quality and competence by established standards (Albeha et al., 2020; Helda & Syahrani, 2022; Syukkur & Fauzan, 2021).

Low-quality educational outcomes can give rise to dilemmas. Among other things, it is difficult for graduates to continue their studies to a higher level, limitations in

following the dynamics of society, and the lack of productivity in their contributions (Albeha et al., 2020; Díaz-Lauzurica & Moreno-Salinas, 2019). The unproductivity of graduates has the potential to become a social burden, increasing the cost of living and social welfare, and has the potential to result in marginalization. The high number of problems caused by unsatisfactory educational outcomes emphasizes the urgency of programs to improve the quality of education (Raghupathi & Raghupathi, 2020; Suliman et al., 2021). Implementing such a program requires a solid foundation, including a commitment to change, a deep understanding of the context, a clear vision, mission, and goals, and structured planning (Kabeyi, 2019; Leal-Filho et al., 2019). To achieve the national target of improving the quality of graduates, every school needs effective governance in its activities. The entire school community must follow effective governance, which can be used as an instrument to direct school activities and become a guideline that the entire school community must follow to achieve common goals.

Student management is a series of planned and consciously undertaken activities as well as ongoing guidance for students so that they can participate in the teaching and learning process effectively and efficiently, starting from the acceptance of students until the students leave a school (Adiyono et al., 2022; Isaeva et al., 2020). Student management has an important role in an educational institution. Student management aims to organize activities in the student affairs sector so that learning activities carried out at school can run smoothly, orderly, and orderly (Ali et al., 2019; Muawanah, 2021; Taufik, 2022). In principle, student management is directed at improving the quality of learning activities, both intracurricular and extracurricular, so that they can contribute to achieving the vision, mission, and goals of the school as well as the goals of national education (Khoir & Yanti, 2023; Maryati et al., 2021; Sungkowo et al., 2019) Good student management will ensure that student activities in the school environment are well managed, resulting in quality graduates.

Sigli Unggul Community Development Education Foundation (YPPU) is a junior high school in Pidie Regency. The Sigli Community Development Education Foundation (YPPU), Pidie Regency, was founded in 1999 and operates in the field of managing formal educational institutions, especially at the initial stage at the Junior High School (SMP) level, namely SMPS UNGGUL YPPU SIGLI. Based on interviews that have been conducted, SMPS UNGGUL YPPU graduates many superior students. Of the graduates, most of them have gone on to other superior and favourite hifavouritecation schools such as SMAN Modal Bangsa, SMAN Fajar Harapan Banda Aceh, Dayah Ruhul Islam Anak Bangsa (RIAB) Banda Aceh, SMA Fatih Bilingual School, and other schools, especially in outside the Pidie Regency area.

Based on the findings above, this research aims to determine the implementation of student management in improving the quality of graduates at Sigli Community Development Education Foundation (YPPU) Superior Middle School. So, the questions in this research are:

RQ1: How is student management implemented to improve the quality of graduates at Sigli Community Development Education Foundation (YPPU) Superior Middle School?

RQ2: What are the internal obstacles to implementing student management in improving the quality of graduates at Sigli Community Development Education Foundation (YPPU) Superior Middle School?

II. Method

This research uses a descriptive method with a qualitative research type because it is in line with the problems contained in the research. Qualitative research produces descriptive data from people and observable behaviour in written or spoken words (Muzari et al., 2022). This research method aims to describe and analyze phenomena, events, social activities, and thoughts of people individually and in groups.

This research was conducted in SMP Unggul Community Development Education Foundation (YPPU) Sigli, Pidie Regency. The subjects were 10 people: 1 principal and 2 deputy principals (student affairs and curriculum), 2 teachers, 1 PPDB chairman, 1 committee, 1 student council chairman, and 2 students from the school. The data collection techniques used in this research were interviews and documentation.

The data collection techniques used in this research are observation, interviews, and documentation. Data analysis is a systematic process of organizing data from various sources such as interviews, field observations, and documents. This process involves processing data into relevant categories and drawing conclusions that can be understood by both the researcher and other interested parties. The data that has been collected is then analyzed through several steps, including data reduction, where the researcher compiles data and information that is considered significant for the analysis and includes it in the discussion. The second is Data Review, where researchers collect and examine information from relevant sources, which is discussed to find accurate conclusions. Lastly, data verification is where the researcher ensures the validity of the data obtained to avoid the possibility of subjectivity, which could affect the quality of the research. This ensures that the data and information can be trusted because it comes from respondents who understand the context of the research problem.

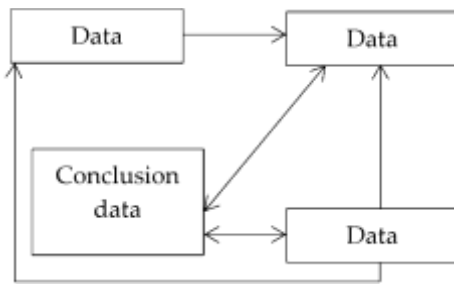


Fig. 1. Research design.

III. Results and Discussion

A. Student Management Planning in Improving the Quality of Graduates at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School

The results of research from YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School show that student planning starts from analyzing student needs by preparing an estimate of the number of students that the school can accept based on study groups (rombel) in basic education data (dapodik) and school resources. This is explained by Alias et al. (2022) "school success is reflected in good management, including in managing or managing students." This means students can be accepted according to capacity based on the number of classrooms and teaching staff available.

Planning for students is carried out to determine the targets to be achieved and the plans used to carry out student activities from when students enter until students graduate. Valente et al. (2024) States, "Student management planning is a process that considers future conditions related to the actions that need to be taken regarding all matters relating to students at school, starting from the time they enter until the time they graduate."

Planning is carried out at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School, usually held at the end of the even semester or the beginning of the odd semester of the new academic year. In this meeting, the targets and objectives to be achieved through activities, strategies for achieving them, and other related matters regarding students are discussed. YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School first plans to realize an increase in the quality of graduates. Research findings show that planning for students is carried out to determine the targets to be achieved and the plans used to carry out student activities from when students enter until students graduate. According to Castillo et al. (2024), "Student management planning is a process that considers future conditions related to the actions that need to be taken regarding students at school, from when they enter until they graduate. This plan covers everything related to the admission of students until their graduation."

In student management planning, four stages need to be carried out, starting from analysis of student needs, student recruitment, student selection, and orientation. At the YPPU Superior Middle School, graduate planning has been carried out. This is done to measure the school's

capacity and ensure that it analyzes student needs to improve the quality of student acceptance based on the capacity of the study group and available resources. Thus, good and well-planned student management planning can be a strong foundation for YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School in improving graduates' quality and achieving their educational goals.

YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School plans student recruitment. This planning is related to the goals to be achieved in student recruitment activities. This planning was carried out through a joint meeting attended by all school members, namely teachers, administrative staff, and other related parties, to form a New Student Admissions Committee (PPDB). The meeting results are outlined in the school's PPDB Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). The PPDB committee creates and posts PPDB announcements through various channels, such as the school website, brochures, banners, and social media. This announcement aims to inform the wider community, especially prospective students and parents/guardians. Apart from placing announcements, schools also reach out to educational institutions and the community as part of efforts to promote the process of accepting new students. Recruitment of YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School students includes forming new students, creating and disseminating new student information, and registering new students.

YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School has selected students following legal principles and SOPs. Khan et al. (2024) stated, "The selection system is a process of accepting new students which are carried out based on certain criteria." The selection of students using the selection system established by the school is carried out to ensure that the students accepted meet the established standards. According to Garai-Fodor et al. (2023) "The selection system is usually carried out in two stages, namely administrative selection and academic selection." By accepting students who have met certain standards and have the potential to develop, schools can provide more effective and appropriate guidance to their educational needs, thereby improving the quality of the graduates produced.

After the selection, the school conducts an orientation at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School called the School Environment Introduction Period (MPLS). The process begins with re-registration to become an official student and continues with the School Environment Introduction Period (MPLS) for three days. As Kercheval et al. (2022) Explained, "Orientation is usually an introduction to one another, either among new students or seniors who are orientated or members of the OSIS, an introduction to stakeholders and the environment in the school."

Period Introduction to the School Environment (MPLS) positively impacts the quality of graduates. This orientation helps make it easier for students to interact with new environments. It is an important first step in

improving the quality of graduates by introducing them to a conducive learning environment and providing appropriate guidance according to each student's potential, interests, and talents.

B. Implementation of Student Management in Improving the Quality of Graduates at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School

The results of research from YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School show that implementing student placement at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School involves placing students heterogeneously; students with higher, medium, and lower abilities are placed in one class. So, YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School uses Achievement Grouping to distribute student placement. As explained by Wiens et al. (2022) "The distribution of student placements includes (a) friendship grouping; (b) achievement grouping; (c) aptitude grouping; (d) attention or interest grouping; (e) intelligence grouping." This means that student placement is based on student achievement. So, there is a mix of students with high and low achievements.

The coaching and development of YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School students have been carried out well. Structured learning and extracurricular activities, as well as fostering student achievement, help improve the quality of graduates. According to Oberholzer & Boyle (2023), "The process of coaching and developing students aims to grow students' talents, interests and abilities by educational goals, both through curricular and extracurricular activities."

Ajmi and Adawi (2023) stated, "Extracurricular activities are the main attraction for students and provide valuable experience outside academic activities." Through various structured learning and coaching activities, YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School can improve the quality of graduates through the valuable experience students gain so that graduating students have additional skills besides knowledge.

The active involvement of the school principal in motivating and giving appreciation for students' achievements also has a positive impact on their achievement. This is because the school principal has a central role in coordinating various efforts to demonstrate his responsibility in ensuring the effectiveness of coaching and developing students. As explained by Al Rasyid et al. (2020) "The quality of graduates is seen from the school principal's strategy in planning, implementing, and evaluating." In his research, he explained that the principal's strategy was very influential in improving the quality of graduates so that they could produce the best graduates and compete.

C. Evaluation of Student Management in Improving the Quality of Graduates at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School

The research results from YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School show that evaluating student recording and reporting at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School is a structured and well-organized process, starting when students are officially accepted and continuing until graduation. According to Li et al. (2024) "Through comprehensive and ongoing evaluation, schools can identify students' strengths and weaknesses and evaluate the effectiveness of existing education programs."

Recording begins with filling in complete student data in the student-parent book. This book includes personal information, residence, health, education, and information about students' parents. According to Begum et al. (2024) "recording and reporting, as well as alumni graduation, are included in the evaluation stage because these two processes can be used as a basis for assessing the success of a learning program given to students."

This data is organized by class to facilitate evaluation. There are also clappers, which contain more concise information but are easy to access if needed. Troy et al. (2022) Explains, "The purpose of student evaluation is to collect data to measure success and prove the level of student progress in achieving the expected goals."

The recording also includes the attendance and absence of students, which is recapitulated in an attendance book to monitor the frequency of attendance and discipline of students. Apart from that, every entry and exit of students is also recorded in the transfer book to maintain accurate data on the number of students. Students' learning outcomes are recorded every semester and in a notebook by the homeroom teacher before being included in the report card. This report card includes reports about attendance, personality, and extracurricular activities in which students participate.

YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School also has a student's notebook containing students' interests, talents, and achievements. This was also explained by Calitz et al. (2024), who stated, "The achievements of alumni need to be recorded because they are useful for educational institutions in promoting their educational institutions." The recording process aims to monitor individual student progress and manage the educational process effectively.

Recording and reporting of students at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School is good. This is not only an administrative task but also an important tool in improving the quality of graduates by ensuring quality and sustainable education. This recording and reporting is used as a form of student evaluation while at school, such as daily assessment (PH), mid-semester assessment (PTS), end-of-semester assessment (PAS), end-of-year assessment (PAT), and school exams (US).

At graduation, YPPU Sigli Middle School alumni can compete to continue their education at their favourite schools in Aceh. Students who complete their education are marked with a diploma, and their names are listed in the school's alumni book. Meanwhile, reunion activities with alumni have never been carried out.

D. Constraints in Student Management in Improving the Quality of Graduates at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School

The results of research from YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School show that there are certainly several obstacles to implementing student management. Based on the existing obstacles, there are important things to consider when designing effective strategies for improving the quality of graduates. By identifying existing obstacles, schools can take concrete steps to overcome each existing challenge to increase the effectiveness of education and create a learning environment that supports the growth and development of students.

The main planning obstacle SMP Unggul YPPU Sigli faces is the limited capacity of the school to accommodate the number of students. Although this school does not impose restrictions on student enrollment, limitations in classroom space, budget, infrastructure, and educational staff limit the number of students that can be accepted. In facing this, the school decided to select students through tests. However, during the recruitment and selection process, schools face challenges related to attempts by individuals who want to enrol their children without following applicable procedures. In this case, SMP Unggul YPPU Sigli emphasizes its commitment to conducting the recruitment process fairly and transparently using established procedures. This shows that the school does not sacrifice its integrity for certain interests but adheres to the principles of ethics and professionalism in participant management. Educate.

By overcoming capacity limitations, ensuring a fair recruitment process, and improving coordination in the implementation of school activities, SMP Unggul YPPU Sigli can directly support improving the quality of graduates by creating a more optimal and supportive learning environment for students. Thus, schools' awareness and responsibility for these obstacles is key in maintaining and improving their educational standards and achieving the goal of improving the quality of graduates.

Obstacles in implementing student management at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School and its relation to improving graduates' quality. The principal explained that he had difficulty balancing the individual needs of students with the needs of the whole school while still ensuring that school activities and programs went according to plan. However, this is used as a challenge

in providing education to students. The solution proposed by the school is to direct parents to provide additional study guidance outside of school.

From the teacher's perspective, general obstacles are faced in the learning process, such as differences in students' ability levels, interests, and motivation. However, this obstacle also challenges increasing teachers' insight and knowledge in guiding students. So, to overcome these obstacles, the school is increasing teacher competency in responding to students' individual needs, developing inclusive coaching programs, and actively involving all stakeholders, including parents, in supporting students' learning processes. Thus, efforts to improve the quality of graduates depend not only on the quality of classroom teaching but also on the overall effectiveness of student management.

Obstacles to the evaluation carried out by the principal of Unggul YPPU Sigli Middle School include routinely conducting evaluations and discussing strategies for improving the programs implemented with teachers and school staff. However, even though evaluations are carried out frequently, implementing improvements sometimes does not always meet expectations. Even though evaluations are conducted, challenges still must be overcome in interpreting evaluation results.

Another obstacle to graduation and alumni is the limitation in involving and establishing relationships with alumni. Schools experience difficulties in organizing reunion activities or alumni meetings. Alumni involvement in evaluating and improving graduates' quality is an aspect that needs further attention. According to Tanis (2020), "Alumni can make a valuable contribution to improving the quality of education, so alumni management is needed, which includes developing alumni networks, alumni contributions to educational institutions, institutional governance for alumni management, and methods for tracking alumni data through electronic media and social media." In this way, alumni are involved in student management to improve the quality of their work and strengthen the relationship between the alma mater and its graduates.

IV. Conclusion

From the results of research conducted at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School, it was found that student management planning is an important first step in improving the quality of graduates. This planning involves analyzing student needs, setting targets, and planning activities from admission to graduation. This planning process was carried out well at YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School, where meetings were held to discuss student goals, strategies, and other related matters. The implementation of student management at YPPU Sigli

Superior Middle School shows good guidance and development of students through structured and extracurricular learning activities. The active involvement of the school principal in providing motivation and appreciation for student achievements is also an important factor in improving the quality of graduates. In evaluating student management, YPPU Sigli Superior Middle School has carried out student recording and reporting well, enabling effective educational process management. However, obstacles such as limited school capacity, differences in student ability levels, and lack of alumni involvement in the evaluation process still need to be overcome. To overcome these obstacles, SMP Unggul YPPU Sigli needs to take concrete steps, such as improving coordination in organizing school activities, carrying out fair student selection, and increasing teacher competency in responding to students' needs. Apart from that, alumni involvement in evaluating and improving the quality of graduates also needs to be increased to strengthen the relationship between the alma mater and its graduates and improve the overall quality of education.

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