

## **Optimization of Facilities and Infrastructure in Elementary Schools through Management of Facilities and Infrastructure**

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### **Abstract**

To produce quality young people, education is very important. Facilities and infrastructure in schools are one of the components that affect the quality of education. So, this article will discuss the importance of optimizing facilities and infrastructure in elementary schools through the management of facilities and infrastructure. It is expected to improve quality in optimizing facilities and infrastructure. This research method is a research using a qualitative approach which is carried out in order to find out the optimization of facilities and infrastructure through proper management of facilities and infrastructure.

**Keywords:** Optimization, Management, Facilities and Infrastructure



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### **INTRODUCTION**

Education is very important in one's life. As stipulated in the National Education System Law No. 20 of 2003 Article 2 states that education in Indonesia must be education that adheres to the values of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. Education is a necessary process to achieve balance and development of the individual as a whole. and society (Nurkholis, 2013). Their task is to develop skills and form valuable national character and civilization in relation to the formation of people's lives. Through education, a person can learn and learn various ways to improve and develop his potential in the form of mental, spiritual, social, emotional and independence in life, to produce quality human beings and be able to face the challenges of the times. The world of education must be handled and managed professionally, because competition in educational institutions is getting tougher. If an educational institution is run sober, it will be rejected by consumers or society.

In the National Education System (Sisdiknas) Law no. 20 of 2003, Article 42 Chapter VII expressly states: (1) Each educational unit is required to have facilities that contain furniture, visual aids, visual aids, books and other learning resources, consumable materials and other equipment needed to support regular learning and continuous. (2) Educational facilities and infrastructure are also an indicator of school quality. Therefore, it is very important to understand and implement the management of school education facilities and infrastructure. Effective and efficient school management is obtained when it is supported by professional human resources in school operations and the fulfillment of components to optimize the teaching and learning process in schools. Of course, this also includes school infrastructure, because the principal who manages the school is very concerned about the implementation of the school infrastructure he manages.

Teaching facilities and infrastructure are facilities that support school performance to achieve educational goals. Specifically, schools are devices and tools that can be used directly to support the teaching and learning process, such as rooms, tables and chairs, boards, projectors and others. Meanwhile, learning infrastructure is basic long-term facilities such as classrooms, laboratories, libraries and others (Sambodo, 2019). If schools do not have adequate facilities and infrastructure such as inadequate desks and chairs or even inadequate

classrooms, then how can students learn effectively if the supporting aspects are inadequate. Facilities and infrastructure are so important that they are included in the eight sections of the National Education Standards (NES), including: process standards; content standard; management standards; standards for coaches and training staff; standard of facilities and infrastructure; graduation competency standards; Educational Assessment Standards; Financial Standards.

However, the most important thing is to pay attention to how schools can overcome this, and not only based on the availability and completeness of facilities and infrastructure. This is supported by the objective of facility and infrastructure management, which is to facilitate effective learning through professional facility and infrastructure management services. SD/MI have at least the following infrastructure: Classrooms, library rooms, science laboratories, boardrooms, staff rooms, places of worship, UKS rooms, toilets, storage rooms, walk-through rooms and play/sports areas. This research is more focused on optimizing learning opportunities and infrastructure facilities in elementary schools to find out the obstacles to optimizing learning opportunities and infrastructure facilities and finding solutions to overcome obstacles to optimizing learning opportunities and infrastructure facilities in elementary schools. Learning opportunities and infrastructure that must be implemented despite experiencing shortages, academic quality has increased from year to year, so that researchers are interested in conducting research related to optimizing learning opportunities and infrastructure facilities in elementary schools.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This research used a qualitative approach (Moleong, 2014) stated that qualitative research is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observed behavior. Researchers use qualitative methods because they have data in accordance with facts, so researchers can present the current situation that occurs in the field. It can be concluded that this design is flexible and open. Even though the researcher used a library research research technique, data were obtained from various sources from related journals and books that support the research topic and other written sources. While the method in research using descriptive method. Descriptive method is a form of research that is intended to describe or depict natural phenomena and human engineering. This study explains the facts about how the use of learning facilities and resources in elementary schools.

Sources of data come from primary data and secondary data through observation, interviews and documentation studies. Data comes from various journals related to the research topic, then search for and retrieve the required data specific to the data needed so that the results are accurate. Then do the interpretation to obtain results that help achieve the objectives of this study. The use of research in this literature is based on its permanent nature and data that is easy to collect. It is easy and can be explained because the validity of the data obtained is based on applicable research standards. Furthermore, an analysis of related topics is carried out so that conclusions are formulated that are in accordance with the objectives of this study. Researchers search for data through Google searches by entering related keywords such as; Utilization of learning facilities in SD, and utilization of learning resources in SD. The validity of the data is said to be credible because the researcher obtained the data by referring to the characteristics and elements of the situation that are very relevant to the research question.

## **RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Optimizing Facilities and Infrastructure in terms of Utilization**

Optimizing elementary school (SD) facilities and infrastructure based on utilization is an important step towards increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the use of facilities. Proper utilization will improve the quality of learning and maximize the benefits of existing resources. Several approaches to optimize facilities and infrastructure are evaluated from utilization:

1. **Planning for use:** Planning for the use of facilities and infrastructure is an important first step. This involves determining the schedule for the use of classrooms, laboratories, libraries, sports areas, and other facilities (Bararah, 2020). With good planning, the use of facilities can be managed efficiently, avoiding annoying overlapping uses, and ensuring that each facility is used optimally.
2. **Utilization of Classrooms:** Classrooms are the most important facility in SD. To optimize the use of classrooms, effective study group arrangements can be made. For example, classrooms could be rearranged to support group-based learning activities, such as group discussions or work. In addition, the use of technology, such as projectors or computers, can increase student learning experience and interactivity.
3. **Utilization of Additional Facilities:** In addition to classrooms, SD usually have additional facilities, such as laboratories, libraries, sports fields, and art spaces. Optimizing the use of these additional facilities is important to complete the learning process. Good planning is required to ensure efficient and effective use, as well as the integration of additional facilities in the curriculum and school activities.
4. **Use of Technology and Learning Media:** The use of technology and learning media can increase the effectiveness of the use of facilities and infrastructure. SD can take advantage of interactive learning software, multimedia, or online platforms to support learning. For example, the use of computers or tablets in the classroom allows access to digital learning resources and assists students in understanding material visually (Anshori, 2020)
5. **Extracurricular Activities:** Utilization of facilities and infrastructure can also be increased through extracurricular activities. Elementary schools can organize a variety of activities outside of school hours, such as clubs, sports, art or scientific exploration. By utilizing existing facilities, students can develop their interests and talents, as well as optimize the use of facilities and infrastructure as a whole.

Utilization of facilities and infrastructure is the whole process of utilizing various facilities/facilities and infrastructure that can support and expedite the course of teaching and learning activities either directly or indirectly. Optimizing Facilities and Infrastructure in terms of Maintenance. educational facilities and infrastructure are activities to carry out management and regulation so that all facilities and infrastructure are always in good condition and ready to be used efficiently and effectively in achieving educational goals. Maintenance is an activity to guard or prevent damage to an item, so that the item is in good condition and ready for use. Maintenance includes all continuous efforts to keep the equipment in good condition. Maintenance starts from the use of goods, namely by being careful in using them (Wicaksono, 2018)

Optimizing school facilities and infrastructure through maintenance is an important step in maintaining the physical condition and quality of facilities so that they continue to function properly. Proper maintenance will ensure that the facilities and infrastructure in elementary schools (SD) remain in good condition and are safe to use. The following is an explanation regarding optimizing facilities and infrastructure in terms of maintenance:

1. **Routine Maintenance:** Maintenance of facilities and infrastructure must be carried out routinely. This includes activities such as cleaning, maintenance and periodic checks to ensure that the facility remains in good condition. For example, cleaning classrooms, checking the quality and cleanliness of toilets, and checking the electrical, water and air conditioning systems.
2. **Repair and replacement:** If there is damage or wear and tear on facilities and infrastructure, repair or replacement measures must be taken immediately. For example, if there is damage to the desks and chairs in the classroom, repairs or replacements must be made so that students can study comfortably. This also applies to equipment, such as a broken projector or computer, that needs to be repaired or replaced to function properly.
3. **Prevention of Damage:** In addition to repairs, prevention efforts are also important to optimize facilities and infrastructure. Preventive measures could include proper and careful use, prohibiting vandalism, and providing training to students on the importance of maintaining school facilities. Thus, intentional damage or accidents can be minimized.
4. **Planned Maintenance System:** It is important to have a planned maintenance system that includes maintenance schedules, facility monitoring and repair records. This system helps in prioritizing maintenance tasks, managing resource allocation, and tracking maintenance history. With an organized system, maintenance can be carried out more efficiently and effectively.
5. **Involvement of All Parties:** Optimizing the maintenance of facilities and infrastructure is not only the responsibility of school staff, but also involves the participation of all relevant parties, including teachers, students and parents. All parties must be given an understanding of the importance of maintaining and caring for school facilities and reporting any damage or problems that occur. With collaboration between all parties, maintenance can be carried out more effectively.
6. **Adequate Budgeting:** To carry out optimal maintenance, adequate budgeting is required. Schools must prioritize the allocation of funds for the maintenance of facilities and infrastructure. Adequate budgeting allows schools to carry out routine maintenance, repairs, and replacement of facilities as needed.

With good management of facilities and infrastructure, it is expected to create schools that are clean, tidy, beautiful, so as to create pleasant conditions for both teachers and to be in the school environment. The purpose of managing school facilities and infrastructure is to provide professional services related to educational facilities and infrastructure so that the learning process can take place effectively. So in general, the purpose of managing educational facilities and infrastructure is to provide professional services in the field of educational facilities and infrastructure in the framework of carrying out the educational process effectively and efficiently.

Educational facilities and infrastructure, especially land, buildings and school equipment should reflect the school's educational program or curriculum. Because the school buildings and equipment are made based on the applicable curriculum or educational program, so that the suitability allows the existing facilities to truly support the educational process. Management of educational facilities and infrastructure is the process of organizing and supervising educational facilities and infrastructure as well as in procuring educational facilities in educational institutions to achieve certain goals. Educational facilities and infrastructure are supports in the teaching and learning process, so that the teaching and learning process can run smoothly

## CONCLUSION

Infrastructure and facilities must be well optimized. Infrastructure and facilities are very important educational resources and it is very important to manage them properly. They are also an important component of educational management. Tools that are used directly in the learning process in class, such as buildings, land, and administrative equipment. Management of facilities and infrastructure is very important for improving the quality of learning, creating a socio-emotional environment, and managing group processes. Therefore, it is very important for teachers to create enabling conditions, which are indicators of the teaching and learning process, to be successful.

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