

ABSTRACT

An Investigation of the Professional Development/Training of Secondary School Principals in Mbaise Educational District, Imo State – Nigeria

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This study investigated the professional development/training received by secondary school principals in Mbaise Educational District, Imo State, Nigeria, to equip them for school administration. The participants comprised four secondary school principals and the Education Secretary to the Local Government, selected through purposeful random sampling, and five teachers (including the vice-principals) selected from each of the four schools through a combination of purposeful and stratified sampling. Findings indicated, among other factors: 1) an apparent deficiency in the professional preparation programme in the area of instructional leadership, 2) a high level of agreement among the respondents in their conceptions about what makes a good principal, and 3) the professional training that principals received had a positive impact on their performance.

Keywords: Principals; Professional training; School administration; Human resources development; Secondary schools; Case studies; Nigeria