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**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT**

**THE ROLE OF SCHOOL LEADERS IN CREATING A CONDUCTIVE
SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT FOR LEARNING IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS
OF NORTH SHOA ZONE**

MA Thesis

By

ASHENAFI TAMIRU

November 2023

Addis Ababa University

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

College of Education and Behavioral Studies

Department of Educational Planning and Management

The Role of School leaders in Creating a Conducive School Environment for Learning in

Secondary Schools of North Shoa Zone, Oromia Regional State

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of Educational Planning and Management, College
of Education and Behavioral Sciences, Addis Ababa University IN Partial Fulfillment of**

the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in School Leadership

By

Ashenafi Tamiru

Advisor

Dr. Yekunoamlak Alemu

November 2023

Addis Ababa University

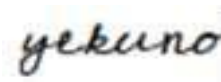
Addis Ababa University

Postgraduate Program Directorate

We here by certify that we have read and evaluated this Thesis entitled “The Role of Schools of Leader in creating conducive School Environment for Learning in Secondary Schools of North Shoa Zone, Oromia Regional State” prepared under our guidance, by Ashenafi Tamiru.

We recommend that it be submitted as fulfilling the Thesis requirement

Dr. Yekunoamlak Alemu



October 2, 2023

Advisor

Signature

Date

As members of the Board of Examiners the MA Thesis Open Defiance Examination, We certify that we have read and evaluated the Thesis prepared by Ashenafi Tamiru and examined the candidate. We recommended that the Thesis be accepted as fulfilling requirements for the degree of Master of Art in School Leadership.

External Examiner

Signature

Date

Internal Examiner

Signature

Date

DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis manuscript to my sister Misrak Tamiru for her devoted partnership in the success of my life, and my brothers Belay Tamiru and Firaol Tamiru for Their affection and love.

STATEMENT OF THE AUTHOR

By my signature below, I declare and affirm that this Thesis is my own work. I have followed all ethical and technical principles of scholarship in the preparation, data collection, data analysis, and completion of this Thesis. Any scholarly matter that is included in the Thesis has been given recognition through citation.

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Name Ashenafi Tamiru Zewdu

Signature_____

Date: 22 October 2023

School Department: Educational Planning and Management

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACT	Australian Capital Territory
CPD	Continuous Professional Development
EIC	Education Improvement Commission
ESDP	Education Sector Development Program
ETP	Education and Training Policy
GEQIP	General Education Quality Improvement Package
HIV/AIDS	Human Immune Virus /Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
MoE	Ministry of Education
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
RCEID	Research Center for Educational Innovation and Development
REB	Regional Educational Bureau
SIC	School Improvement Committee
SIP	School Improvement Program
TDP	Teachers Development Program
WEB	Woreda Educational Bureau

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of All, I would like to thank my advisor Dr.Yekunoamlak Alemu for his critical comments, constructive suggestions and guidance throughout the course of my Thesis work and for All his assistance and unlimited support during the study. I would also like to express my gratitude for the financial support provided by Addis Ababa University.

Special thanks and appreciation goes to my family, especially my wife, Kibinesh Diriba, who encouraged me during the course study and research period in taking all family burdens. In addition, the generous support and contribution from my colleagues and friends are deeply acknowledged and emphasized in all cases of my future life. This will never be forgotten. Special thanks are due to all instructors of the Department of Educational Planning and Management at Addis Ababa University.

Furthermore, I sincerely thank for the privilege Addis Ababa University accorded me during my stay at the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, Department of Educational Planning and Management, Postgraduate Program Directorate, and Addis Ababa University.

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to analyze school leaders' efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone. To achieve this purpose, descriptive a survey design was employed. Interview, questionnaire, document analysis and observation checklist were used as instrument of data collection. Data were collected from 10 government secondary schools. A total of 90 teachers, 62 SIC members, 10 PTA head and 5 secondary school supervisors were used for the study. The data were analyzed by frequency, percentage, mean and scores description. The study indicates most of the respondents were experienced enough and had awareness about their school nature and culture. The study found that most school leaders were not qualified with leadership profession. According to this study, secondary school environment was moderately conducive for learning regarding to school facilities and students empowerment. However, the extent to which students were supported in schools was low in secondary schools. In terms of school facilities, there were inadequate facilities like standard laboratories and libraries, lack of access and use of technologies like internet and adequate computers and separate latrines. Regarding to school facility and students support, low efforts were employed by school leaders in creating conducive learning school environment that address the physical and mental health needs of all students and staff. They employed moderate efforts regarding to empowering students. Low leadership competency, technical skill and experience of school leaders were among the factors highly affecting school leaders to create conducive learning school environment. Based on the findings, some recommendations were suggested. First, School leaders should use their understanding of SIP to enhance conducive school environment for learning. Second, MoE and REB should provide training for school leaders in professional development activities and bring competent and trained personnel to the leadership position.

CHAPTER ONE

1. INTRODUCTION

This section of the study deals with introductory part of the study which deals with background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, delimitation of the study. The concepts which were obtained from various literatures presented as follows.

1.1. Background of the study

Globally, Education is widely recognized as one indicator of development. One of the basic purposes of educations is to produce trained human resources which can overcome development impediments of a given country. As to Gunter (2001) the purposes of schools and schooling are to educate as well as train, and enable children to engage in the theory and practice of what it means to be a citizen in an unfolding and reforming democratic project. Scholars agree that school leadership (SL) is one of the most useful tools for creating an effective teaching and learning environment (Hallinger & Walker, 2014). School leadership is an educational leadership that focuses on the core responsibility of a school, namely teaching and learning, by defining the school vision, mission and goals, managing the instructional programs and promoting the school climate (Hoy & Miskel, 2008). King (2002) asserted that the role of an instructional leader differs from that of a traditional school administrator in a number of meaningful ways: whereas the conventional head of school spends all of his/her time dealing strictly with administrative duties, the head of school who is an instructional leader is charged with redefining his/her role to become the primary learner in a community striving for excellence in education. As such, it becomes the head of school's responsibility to work with teachers to manage the instructional program. School leaders know what is happening in the classrooms and develop the capacities of their staff by building on their strengths and reducing their weaknesses (Spillane & Zuberi, 2009).

School Leadership can be understood as a process of influence based on clear values and beliefs and lead into a „vision“ for the school. The vision is articulated by leaders who seek to gain the

commitment of staff and stakeholders to the ideal of a better future for the school, its learners and stakeholders (Bush, 2007). A school system is one of the public institutions having its own specific goals and objectives to be achieved and such responsibility is delegated to school leaders.

School leaders go beyond the traditional role of school administrators and spend a lot more time focusing on developing knowledge and implementation of the curriculum, as well as instruction and assessment (Jita, 2010). The improvement in learning is more likely to be achieved when the leadership is instructionally focused and located closest to the classroom. Creating positive change in the classroom requires school leaders to strategically combine several important factors, such as designing a classroom layout conducive to learning, recognizing student achievements, and setting reasonable expectations. Studies have shown that creating conducive environment encourages student achievement and teacher satisfaction alike. When a teacher has control over a cooperative, collaborative, and respectful group of students, everyone in the room enjoys a more positive educational experience. But how can school leaders actually approach creating positive change in the classroom. There are seven specific tips that will help to create a positive school environment. It can also communicate these tips with the staff are an educational in charge of teacher training and development. Some of the roles of school leader to create a positive school environment are **encouraging a classroom code of conduct**. In every classroom there should have standards and expectations that govern classroom behavior. Instead of presenting students with a list of rules on the first day of class, consider involving students in the process of establishing the classroom code of conduct. Start by discussing with the class the importance of treating others like we want to be treated ourselves. Next, work with the class to brainstorm a list of positive behaviors like cooperation, kindness, and sharing. The class should then work together to write a code of conduct that reflects those positive behaviors and encourages traits like respect, fairness, and empathy. When students participate in the rulemaking process, they feel ownership for their classroom code of conduct and develop a deeper appreciation for following the classroom rules. The other is school leader practice to create positive school environment is to **be a role model**. Diettel (1996) in the same manner defines leadership as the process of setting direction, motivating and inspiring employees

Students can be impressionable, and the old adage “do as I say, not as I do” isn’t enough to convince youth to behave a certain way when school leaders and other adults behave differently. Holding yourself to the same classroom code of conduct and standards established in cooperation

with the students gives the opportunity to model the behaviors that expected from them. If leaders really want to see students behave a certain way in the classroom, it's important for them to see those behaviors happening at the front of class too. The next role of school leaders to create positive school environment is reinforcing **and rewarding positive Behaviors**. Parents and teachers know that it is much easier to focus on bad behaviors than the good ones, but it's important to reinforce positive behaviors when we see them happening. Praising positive behaviors in the classroom is a simple, yet powerful, way to motivate students to be on their best behavior. Many classrooms rely on physical objects such as stickers or certificates to mark recognition. If leaders use a similar strategy, be sure to tell the student the specific positive behavior observed, ask the student how it made him or her feel to behave that way, and explain to the student that the sticker or certificate is only there to remind them how good it feels to exhibit positive behavior (ACT, 2009).

The other way to create school environment is **practice of mindfulness**. One of the most important strategies for creating positive change in the classroom is also often the most difficult to carry out. A positive attitude will set the appropriate tone with your students and demonstrate how leaders expect them to treat each other and themselves. Daily meditation practice can make it much easier to stay mindful and positive during the school day. Being mindful means having the ability to live in the here and now, to focus solely on the task at hand. When school leaders remained calm and focused, they will communicate better with the class, create a more positive learning environment, and enjoy stronger relationships with the students. The other factor of School leaders' efforts in creating a conducive school environment for learning is **communicating directly**. Even the best-laid plans for a positive classroom can't insulate a learning environment entirely from students bent on distracting and disrupting their peers. In these situations, the way you speak to the student can have a profound and long-lasting effect on their classroom behavior. When a student is acting out and creating a distraction, speak directly and clearly to the student. Use "I" statements to show the student how his or her actions have negatively affected you. "I" statements also put the focus on the behavior rather than the student personally. Don't use threats or bribes to elicit better behavior, and be courteous during the conversation in order to model positive behavior for the student (Addington, 2009)

The other factor of School leaders' efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning is **normalizing mistakes**. As adults, we know that mistakes are a normal part of life and can also

be an excellent vehicle for learning. But for some students, making mistakes creates extreme anxiety and stress in the classroom. Some of the students may be hyper-focused on perfection and will freeze if they think taking action could lead to a mistake, and others may be horrified at the thought of making a mistake in front of their peers. In either case, fear of making mistakes is extremely common among school-aged children and teenagers. To create positive change in your classroom, explain that everyone makes mistakes and that in some cases the only way to become better is to make a mistake and learn from your faults (Andrés, 2007).

The North Shoa Zone is one of the 21 Zones in Oromia Regional State, where the capital of the Zone, Fitcha is 112 Km North of Addis Ababa. The Zone shares boundary with Amhara Regional State in the North and East, Addis Ababa City to the South, and South West Shoa Zone in the South and Western part of the country. The Zone had 13 Woredas and three City Administrations in which there are 46 secondary schools. The numbers of teacher in secondary schools 1903 which of 1456 are male's and 447 females. The total numbers of students in secondary school are 43,820 which of 22,755 are males and 21,065 females. There is one Teachers Training College and 568 primary schools in the Zone and the number primary school teachers are 6981 which 3617 are males and 3364 females. The total numbers of students in primary school are 194,713 which of 103, 659 are males and 91,054 females. According to 2015 Zonal report, the total population of the Zone was 1,437,800 of which 723,138 were males and 714,662 were females. Climatic condition of the Zone was categorized mainly into lowest lands of tropical, medium temperate and temperate zone. Regarding to socio-economic activities, almost All the population of rural area of Woredas in the Zone were homogenous in which their life depends on farming different types of crops like Teff, wheat, beans and other non-cash crops.

With this background, the study tries to assess school leaders' efforts in creating a conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone.

1.2. Statement of the problem

Effective school leadership is important but, in isolation, is not a sufficient condition for successful schools. The review draws particular attention to two concepts of leadership: instructional/pedagogical and transformational.

A combination of strategies can be most beneficial in ensuring school success and most leadership effects operate indirectly to promote student outcomes by supporting and enhancing

conditions for teaching and learning through direct impacts on teachers and their work. School leaders, particularly principals, have a key role to play in setting direction and creating a positive school culture including the proactive school mindset, and supporting and enhancing staff motivation and commitment needed to foster improvement and promote success for schools in challenging circumstances (Bluestein, 2001).

The challenges facing school leaders include ensuring consistently good teaching and learning, integrating a sound grasp of basic knowledge and skills within a broad and balanced curriculum, managing behavior and attendance, strategically managing resources and the environment, building the school as a professional learning community, developing partnerships beyond the school to encourage parental support for learning and new learning opportunities (Cheung and Evers, 2001).

The key dimensions of successful leadership are identified as: defining the vision, values and direction, improving conditions for teaching and learning, redesigning the organization: aligning roles and responsibilities, enhancing teaching and learning, redesigning and enriching the curriculum, enhancing teacher quality (including succession planning), building relationships inside the school community, building relationships outside the school community and placing an emphasis on common values (Day and Sammons, 2016). Abiy (2014) in his conclusions stated that, on issue of the current practice of schools in creating safe and healthy school environment, libraries and laboratories of the schools could not provide the service to students due to lack of attention of the administration to assign trained personals. As per the knowledge of the researcher, there is no previously conducted research on what government secondary schools on North Shoa Zone look like from the angle of school leaders' efforts in creating a conducive school environment for learning. A research was conducted on evaluation the implementation of SIP (Gizaw, 2013). But this study was limited to the interplay of the domains of SIP in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone. It did not address the conducive school environment domain in depth.

Therefore, this study is different from others and focuses on school leaders' effort in creating a conducive school environment for learning regarding to school facilities, student empowerment and support in North Shoa Zone Secondary Schools.

1.3. Research Questions

In order to analyze the role of school leaders in creating a conducive school environment for learning, the following research questions have been drawn to be answered in the study.

- 1 To what extent does secondary school environment is conducive for learning in North Shoa Zone?
- 2 To what extent do school leaders exert their efforts in creating a conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone?
- 3 What are the factors affecting school leaders' efforts in creating a conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone?

1.4. Objectives of the study

1.4.1. General Objectives

The general objective of the study is investigation of school leaders' efforts in creating a conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone, Oromia regional State.

1.4.2. Specific Objectives

The study is targeted to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. To examine the extent to which secondary school environments are conducive for learning in North Shoa Zone.
2. To analyze the extent to which school leaders have been exerting their efforts in creating a conducive learning environment in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone.
3. To find out factors affecting school leaders' efforts in creating a conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone.

1.5. Significances of the Study

The findings of this study may provide information for school leaders, educational sector experts and policy makers on the extent to which school environment is conducive, the extent to which school leaders are exerting their effort in creating a conducive school environment, and factors that affect school leaders in creating a conducive school environment for learning. Moreover, it may indicate direction to school leaders and other stakeholders (school improvement partners, Woreda and Zonal educational bureau experts) ways and means to maximize school leaders' efforts in creating a conducive school environment for learning, and how to manage and solve factors that affect school leaders to make school environment conducive for learning in

secondary schools. The study could serve the researcher how to manage school environment and create a conducive school environment in his professional work. At last, the study could serve as basis for others to conduct further study in this area.

1.6. Delimitations of the Study

This study was undertaken to analyze school leaders' efforts in creating a conducive school environment for learning. To make this research manageable, geographically, the study was delimited to North Shoa Zone, Oromia Regional State. Out of thirteen Woredas and three city Administration in the Zone. It was delimited to Four Woredas and one City Administrations to have manageable size of sample Woredas and City. Besides, due to time and financial constraints, work overload of the researcher, and to make the study more manageable and feasible, the study was delimited to 10 (ten) government General Secondary Schools (9-12).

Hence, this study was delimited content wise to the extent to which school environment are conducive for learning, extent to which school leaders exert their efforts and factors affecting school leaders in creating a conducive school environment for learning regarding to school facilities, student empowerment and student support in North Shoa Zone Secondary Schools.

1.7. Limitations of the Study

Some limitations were the problem of peace and security; In addition, the study lacked the accessibility of relevant and up-to-date reference materials in carrying out the study. Moreover, locally written literature specifically on school leaders' efforts is scarcely available. Also the study was limited to the respondents' unwillingness to fill out and return the questionnaire. However, the researcher overcome these all problems with patience, arranged convenient time and place in order to get enough valid responses.

1.8. Definition of Key Terms

Conducive: A favorable and enabling school environment for learning.

Conducive School environment: A favorable school environment providing the right conditions which enable for free leaning in terms of school facilities, students empowerment and students support.

Creating:- Facilitating and bringing about a desired learning school environment.

Cross-Cutting Issues: Are issues like gender, special need and inclusive education, HIV/AIDS that are crucial to consider in school for facilitating learning.

Effort: Struggle of school leaders to make school environment conducive for learning.

Indicators: Statistics that allow value judgments to be made about the performance level of a conducive school environment.

Learning: is the act, process of gaining knowledge, skill and abilities gained through schooling.

Principal: Administrative head and professional leader in charge of secondary school.

School Improvement Committee: Is a committee drawn from teachers, students, administrative staff, parents and the community chaired by the principal responsible for the implementation of SIP in schools.

School leaders: In this study school leaders are supervisors, principals, Vice-principals, Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) heads, unit leaders, department heads and student councils.

School leadership: is the process of enlisting and guiding the talents and energies of teachers, students, and parents toward achieving a common educational aims.

Standard: A level of excellence, that is measurable, that all schools attempts to achieve in order to improve students result.

1.9 Organization of the Study

This research paper is organized into five chapters. The first chapter holds the introduction part of the study which consists of background of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, delimitation of the study, limitation of the study and operational definition of key terms. The second chapter deals with review of literature pertinent to the research. The third chapter discusses about research design and methodology. The collected data from the subject of the study are carefully analyzed and interpreted under the fourth chapter. The fifth chapter summarizes the research and forward conclusions and recommendations on the basis of the findings of the study. References and appendix, which include questionnaires, interview guide questions, observation checklist and school document review checklists and other related materials, are also part of the document.

CHAPTER TWO

2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This section of the study deals with review of related literature. The researcher tried to consult various literatures and the result presented as follows.

2.1. Definition and Concept of Leadership

Leadership, and the study of it, has roots in the beginning of civilization. Egyptian rulers, Greek heroes, and biblical patriarchs all have one thing in common—leadership. There are numerous definitions and theories of leadership; however, there are enough similarities in the definitions to conclude that leadership is an effort of influence and the power to induce compliance (Wren, 1995 cited in Gregory Stone, G. and Patterson, K.2005).

The concepts of leadership, management and administration overlap and have been accorded different emphases over time and in different contexts. The concerns of organizational leadership focuses on vision, strategic issues, transformation, ends, people and doing the right thing while that of management focuses on implementation, operational issues, transactions, means and systems (Christopher and Pamela, 2013). While leadership involves steering organizations by shaping other people's attitudes, motivations and behaviors, management is more closely associated with maintenance of current operations (Pont et al., 2008). Leadership should provide the drive and direction for raising achievement, while management should make best use of the resources and processes to make this happen (Earley and Weindling, 2004).

School leaders are in charge of connecting and adapting schools to their surrounding environments. According to Earley and Weindling (2004), the school leader tries to take charge and bring about school improvement. School leadership has become a priority in education policy agendas across Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and partner countries because; it plays a key role in improving classroom practice, school policies and connections between individuals and the outside world by influencing the motivations and capacities of teachers, as well as the school climate and environment. It contributes to improved

student learning by shaping the conditions and climate in which teaching and learning occur (Pont et al., 2008).

2.2. The Role of School principals in School

Principals are the key players in the school improvement plan. They play a wide variety of roles to ensure that the improvement plan and its implementation are successful. One of their most important responsibilities is to ensure that improvement plans reflect the characteristics of their own school and its community. According to Education Improvement Commission (2000), principals' roles in school improvement planning fall into three main categories, as follows:-

2.2.1. Effective Communication

Principals should: Clearly explain the school improvement planning process to staff, school councils, parents, and other community members; Help staff, school councils, parents, and other Community members understand their role in the process and invite them to participate; provide the community with a school "profile" detailing the nature and characteristics of the school; Ensure that everyone involved in the process receives regular communications about the improvement plan and the school's progress; communicate the final school plan to all members of the school's communication.

2. 2.2. Enhancing Professional Development

Principals should: Encourage staff to lead the development and implementation of the plan; Provide leadership and professional development/training opportunities to staff, school council members, parents, and other community members involved in the process, and support them in developing and implementing the plan; Establish professional development goals with staff that focus on the goals and strategies in the school improvement plan; Ensure that professional development activities that focus on achieving the school' improvement goals are part of every staff meeting.

2. 2.3. Leading the school community

Principals should: Develop and circulate a parent survey to provide parents with an opportunity to describe their feelings about the school and the ways in which they would like to be involved in their children's education, and ensure that parents have adequate time to respond to the survey; Tally the results of the parent survey and provide it to those involved in the planning process to help them determine the goal for enhancing the level of parental involvement ;

Regularly collect classroom information on student achievement, use this information in discussions with teachers about adjusting and improving their teaching strategies, and ensure that this information is also used by those developing the school improvement plan; Lead school improvement planning meetings of staff, school councils, parents, and other community members; Regularly assess staff's implementation of the school improvement plan; Provide support and ongoing professional development for staff members as they pursue the strategies set out in the plan; Ensure that the school budget reflects and supports the plan's goals and implementation strategies; Continually gather information on student achievement and communicate it to the school's community as part of the plan's monitoring and evaluation process (Education Improvement Commission: 2000,).

2. 2.4. Enhancing Curriculum Implementation

The school principal is a key granter of successful implementation. He/she can also play a major role in curriculum implementation by giving moral support to the staff, by arranging staff development, by collecting resources to the task and by establishing good working relationship among teachers, by generating better solution to the school problems and the like (Ornestin and Hunkins, 1998).

On the other hand, many educationalists felt that the principal's role to the improvement of the curriculum is high. Dull (1981) as cited in (Zulu, 2004). mentioned the principal's role in curriculum improvement as follows;1) Arrange and persuade the conduct of continual meetings to arrive at remedies to problems,2) Facilitate the provision of in-service training to teachers,3) Ascertain that teachers often receive the recognition due them,4) Make sure that the suggested improvements are pertinent,5) Identify the values, spirits, and performance passed by teachers before they put the improved curriculum into practice, and 6) Check the presence of enough amounts of appropriate materials and supplies in the classroom.

Pat Cox (1983) also suggests that the principal should make the school situation favorable enough to promote solving a problem related to curriculum improvement. The principal should also make certain that teachers, parents, and those representing the central office should fulfill their task in clearly defined time space. The principal must assure that these individuals are free from the influences or trivial evaluations.

2. 2.5. The Supervising School Activities

Supervision is the key in creating effective teaching and learning process. It is also central to the improvement of the quality of teaching in a school and if educators are well led and are aware of the benefits of supervision (Zulu, 2004). It is noted that most researchers are in agreement about the importance of supervision in the delivery of education. Principals are a key player in school supervision. In this view, Zulu (2004) declared that the key person in the supervision exercise is the principal.

According to the scholar supervision is an act by the principal of managing, overseeing and giving direction to education. It is, therefore, important for the principal, to have a shared of what is supposed to be happening in the classroom with the teacher. Bond and Wiles (1986) pointed out that in improving instruction through supervision, the principal should become more clinical in reviewing the processes and procedure of the classroom. They further argued that it is essential that the supervisor and the teacher develop a shared reality that can become the basis of professional dialogue. This indicates that the principal should in a systematic way; draw the connection between curriculum and instruction for the teacher. This will help in enabling the principal to understand the educator's classroom concerns and be in a position to provide necessary assistance. This is more so because the principal is an instructional specialist and his expertise should help novice educators by actually going into classrooms to demonstrate how prepared lessons should be presented.

Researchers such as Bond and Wiles (1983) have suggested some models of supervision that could be used effectively by school principals. One such model is the clinical supervision model by Cogan as illustrated by Rossouw (1990) consists of 4 stages: A) Pre-Conference: Principal and educator aims to reach a common understanding of the objectives, approaches to learning and teaching and intended outcomes in a lesson. B) Classroom observation: Principal gathers information through observation while the educator conducts the lesson planned. C) Analysis and reflection: Principal and educator reflect in and draw inferences from what is known and observed. D) Post-Conference: Principal and educator meet to share their analysis and draw implications, intentions on the part of the educator and the basis for discussion and judgments are provided. It is worth noting that class visits and (lesson observation form the basis of the principal's supervision practices. This clearly indicates that supervision is focused on improving professional performance so as to deliver the valued outcomes of the school which includes increased student achievement (Zulu, 2004).

2.2.6. Facilitating of Classroom Instruction

The principal does not necessarily have to engage in teaching and have an in-depth knowledge of various subjects offered in his/her school.

However, as the chief administrator of the individual school, the principal has the authority and responsibility of decisions within the autonomous sphere of the school. In his focus on the principal's leadership, Kaiser (1985) in Zulu 2004 contends that the leadership exercised by the principal can make a difference between a school that operates effectively and one that is ineffective. Kaiser further points out that through his leadership behavior, the principal can improve the instructional climate of the school for both teachers and learners. The responsibility for creating the climate in a school that is conducive to effective teaching and learning rests with the principal. An improvement in the quality of life in the school leads to improved relationships among staff members and thereby improves their productivity.

According to Bond and Wiles (1986) the primary job of a school principal is to improve the instructional experience of students which also includes the organization of school and staff, selection of learning materials, developing methodology and conducting evaluations. They further argue that to ensure effective instruction for students, the principal must follow the intended curriculum into the classroom setting and work with the teacher.

Murphy and Louis (1993) agree with Fullan's idea that the principal is the single most important factor in transforming classroom instruction. They argue that a principal's involvement with instructional leadership is crucial to the support and facilitation of teaching. Hall and Hord (1982), concur with Murphy and Louis's assertion. They emphasize that if educational programs are to improve, principals must take the lead in providing educators with the instructional leadership they need. The researcher assumes that the above suggestions indicate that the principal's instructional leadership has a significant influence on students' achievements. In addition, a good principal takes the lead over matters concerning children's learning, and he/she also interests himself/herself in teaching strategies and in the curriculum.

2.3. Creating a Conducive School Environment

School environment refers to the social, academic and emotional contexts of a school—the “personality” of the learning context— and how it is perceived by students, staff and community. This climate is influenced by a broad range of factors, from disciplinary policies to instructional quality to student and teacher morale (Bluestein, 2001).

The school alone cannot create conducive school environment for effective teaching and learning process. To create safe and maintained school environments it needs the genuine participation of school leaders to ensure quality of education. To strengthen this idea, for creating and sustaining environments to support teaching and learning officials, directors and other central and area office staff support efforts of school personnel, family members and community collaborator to create safe and supportive learning environments (Andres, 2007). To support this, when students believe that adults in the school care about them have high expectations for their education and will provide the support essential to their success, they thrive. When teachers and staff are deeply engaged in creating a safe, nurturing, challenging school environment, their job satisfaction increases (Bluestein, 2001).

Conducive environment reinforces the teachers by providing a good stimulus for effective learning to take place. Such stimulus is not only provided by ensuring good physical plant planning but also through proper maintenance of such physical facilities. Conducive school environment where good working facilities exist is a catalyst for effective teaching and learning. In school where there is enough space for the teachers to walk round in the classroom while delivering lesson will promote rapt attention of students and good academic performance (Saifullah, 2011).

School environment which is facilitated by essential inputs such as library, laboratory with science kits, clean toilets, attractive classrooms, etc create conducive atmosphere for learning to be improved. Besides to this, creating conducive school environment need to meaningful participation of all stakeholders and visionary leadership. Therefore, conducive school environment facilitate for effective teaching and learning process and it encourage students' participation on their learning and enhance the academic achievements of the students. Such kinds of school environment reduce the educational wastage (repetition, dropout, and low academic achievement of the students') (MoE, 2007a).

All students will be educated in learning environments that are safe, drug-free, and conducive to learning. An environment conducive to learning is critical to foster the academic achievement of students (Andrés, 2007). School environment is the learning environment created through the interaction of human relationships, physical setting, and psychological atmosphere Perkins (2006) cited in (Sarah, 2009). In safe and productive learning environments students willingly

engage and participate in the broad range of learning opportunities. They contribute to decisions about their learning and their contributions are valued. A conducive school environment describes quality learning environments are created to focus on student needs and foster potential skills and interests; schools create opportunities for students to develop into self-regulating learners within and beyond the classroom; and schools value participation, and support student expression of new knowledge and understanding (ACT, 2009).

When students feel secure in the school community they can attend their education with motivation. Students need to be empowered and their voices need to be heard so as to make their contribution and engage and active participation in the decision making process of their school. Conducive school environment for learning has three elements: These are school facility, empowerment of students and support for students (MoE, 2011b).

2.3.1. School Facility

School facility describes the extent to which school has fulfilled facilities that meet the standards of the school and thereby enabled the teachers and administration personnel of the school to properly discharge duties. This element incorporates one standard and five performance indicators. The indicators are: secured fence and attractive premises, favorable and inspiring class room, standard teaching-learning aides and materials that equipped with appropriate equipment educational development center, laboratory/science kit, library, teachers' resting room, sports grounds, etc), adequate access to standard toilets particularly designated for ladies and gents together with water facilities, and access and use of complete information and commutation technology (ICT) for teaching purposes (like radio, tape player, plasma, computer, etc.)(MoE2011b).

There is relationship between the conditions of school buildings and student achievement (Hunter, 2006). Teaching and learning process does not take place in a vacuum but rather in an environment structured to facilitate learning. The school facilities consist of All types of buildings for academic and non-academic activities, equipment for academic and non-academic activities, areas for sports and games, landscape, farms and gardens including trees, roads and paths. Others include furniture and toilet facilities, lighting, acoustics, storage facilities and packing lot, security, transportation, ICT, cleaning materials, food services, and special facilities for the physically challenged persons (Ihuoma, 2008).

In support of the above idea, Earthman (2004) rates temperature, heating and air quality as the most important individual elements for student achievement. Some physical elements (furniture and equipment, arrangement and layout, display and storage and ICT in the classroom improve comfort, wellbeing and probably attitude and so, perhaps, improve achievement (Higgins et al., 2006).

2.3.2. Empowerment of Students

Empowerment of students describes the extent to which school has developed structures and procedures that enabled students to develop a sense of responsibility and self-disciplined culture. This element has one standard and five indicators. The indicators are: student participation in decision making process, gender equality of students to participate in school leadership, integration of reproductive health and other issues related to family life education in school programs, students' behavioral change and students' demonstration in acceptable sense of responsibility in the teaching-learning process and bear self-confidence and enjoy freedom (MoE, 2011b).

According to Nuthall (2007) it is difficult for school leaders to create an environment conducive to enhancing self-worth of students unless they examine and understand similarities and differences between teachers' and students' understandings and perceptions of the impact of various classroom interactions. Liu and Breit (2013) contend that influential high-impact educational practices are characterized by students experiencing diversity, reflecting and integrating learning, and discovering relevance of learning through real-world applications.

2.3.3. Student Support

According to MoE (2011b), student support describes the extent to which school has favorable environment , secure, safe supportive and meets the needs of students which enabled them to attain successful performance outcome and students with special needs have been able to score successful accomplishment due to equal learning opportunities and special support provided for their talents. This element has two standards and twelve indicators. In the first standard, the indicators are top priority given to improve performance of students, equal opportunity for students, provision of all rounded support to students, implementation of system that brings self-confidence of female students, safe and secure environment, budget allocation and utilization for students' health and safety, and school's rules of procedures.

In the second standard, the indicators are integration of special needs education in Continuous Professional Development (CPD) program, implementation of special needs education program, successful performance of special need students in their education, satisfaction of students in special need education program, and class room arrangement in a cost effective manner to suit the use of students with special needs are indicators for the school to be conducive for learning (MoE, 2011b). Schools should give special attention in identification of the needs of students who deserve special support (Abiy, 2012). One of the most effective measures for keeping schools safe and secure includes the development of school safety plans and prevention programs that support students' healthy social and emotional development (Kingshott and Mckenzie, 2013).

Sustainable school improvement requires support in all levels of learning organization and capacity building within the school's staff (Lambert, 2003). School leaders should consult health and social care professionals, pupils and parents to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are effectively supported (Davis, 2000). When schools help students feel a sense of support, respect and belonging, students have a stronger desire to learn (Duncan, 2013). It is fundamental to acknowledge that student welfare is the responsibility of school leaders working in a whole school context. Each teacher has a vital role as a source of support and determinant of success for students. The most significant amount of students' time, apart from family, is spent with teachers who are often the most important adult connection – the first contact point for many issues and services (Johnston, 2001).

To sum up, school environment has relation with students' behavior and achievement. When the environment became conducive and well facilitated with the necessary facilities, it supports positively students learning, behavior and achievement. A positive school environment creates an optimal setting for teaching and learning. On the other hand, when the environment is not conducive and less facilitated, they contribute negatively for the learning, behavior and achievement of students (Solomon, 2014).

2.4. Roles of School Leaders in Creating a Conducive School Environment

Effective school leaders recognize the potential they have to create a school environment where teachers thrive and students achieve their greatest potential in a safe and nurturing school setting (Cowan and Vaillancourt, 2013). Two of the most important roles of school leaders are their

monitoring and evaluation of their school's performance. The performance of school can be expressed as the output of the school, which in turn is measured in terms of the average achievement of the pupils at the end of formal schooling (Jaap Scheeres, 2000). Ineffective School leaders are insufficiently informed about the day-to-day running of their schools and depend too heavily upon the head for information on how the school is performing (Earley and Weindling (2004).

School leaders have a vital role in shaping the culture of a school, the vision for student wellbeing and unexpected behaviors (harassment, discrimination and violence). Teachers and schools leaders can also provide opportunities for students to have a voice in developing policies and programs (Rigby, 2010). School leaders have a responsibility to ensure students are safe within the school and broader online learning environments (Fuller, 2009). According to Leslie (2000), the role of school leaders are creating a context conducive to change (culture, the relationships of people within and outside of the school, resources, local, state, and Federal Policies and Rules, demographics, and the physical facilities); developing and communicating the vision; planning and providing resources; investing in professional development; monitoring and checking progress and, continuing to give assistance.

Researches on school leadership affects has revealed a number of leadership practices that are particularly conducive to enhancing student learning. These show that certain leadership practices are associated with measurable improvements in student learning. This report identifies four major domains of responsibility as key tasks for school leadership to improve students' learning within their schools supporting and developing teacher quality, defining goals and measuring progress, strategic resource management and collaboration with external partner (Pont et al., 2008).

In line with the above idea, school leaders shall give special attention to the following core points: creating a favorable school environment where students can learn in a stable condition and gain high satisfaction whereby effectuating the learning-teaching activity; guiding teachers and staff to positive school vision so that students would be able to acquire the future bright hope and develop their potential; developing the professional development of All teachers and staff and identifying the training needs of the management and the school community (MOE, 2011a).

2.4.1. Building school leadership capacity

Leadership capacity means broad-based, skillful participation in the work of leadership. By “broad-based” It means that if the principal, a vast All of the teachers, and large numbers of parents and students are all involved in the work of leadership, then the school will most likely have a high leadership capacity that achieves high student performance (Linda, 2003). In order for the leadership of a school plays its roles effectively it should be empowered (Mulatu and Teketel, 2014). Without high-quality, skilled, and sustainable leadership at the school, district, and policy-making levels, the transformation of public schools will not occur (Fran and Gaddy, 2001). Leadership capacity in schools requires "broad-based, skillful participation in the work of leadership (Lambert, 2003).

2.4.2. Shared vision resulting in program coherence

For school to be conducive for learning, a broad-based, shared sense of leadership must be alive in the school community. Building the capacity of many — teachers, parents, and students, as well as superintendents, principals, and school board members — to engage in leading reform efforts is critical (Stephen, 2009). A shared vision based upon the core values of participants and their hopes for the school ensures commitment to its realization. Realizing a shared purpose or vision is an energizing experience for participants, and a shared vision is the unifying force for participants working collaboratively (Linda, 2003).

The quality of leadership can make a difference between a school which struggles and one which strives for the highest levels of attainment, between a school where pupils and staff are pulling in different directions and one where everyone collaborates and works towards a shared purpose (Coles and South worth, 2002). The school leadership should design a clear vision for the school and it has to work in collaboration with the school community; and it should formulate directives and move to the vision (MoE, 2011a).

2.4.3. Broad involvement and collaboration reflected in roles and actions

School leaders should communicate and collaborate with families to address the health and safety needs of individual students (Bluestein, 2001). Collaboration and the expansion of roles lead to a sense of collective responsibility for all the students in the school, the broader school community, and the education profession as a whole. When working together, they form a concentration of leadership that is a powerful force in a school (Linda, 2003). Through their participation in professional organizations, school leaders can take agency over workforce policy issues and contribute to shaping the conditions in which they work (Pont et al., 2008). Safe and

successful learning environments are fostered through collaboration among school staff and community-based service providers while also integrating existing initiatives in the school (Garcia, 2003).

For effective leadership, intellectual abilities of a leader are not essential. Rather, effective leadership requires a leader's good networking with the people concerned in different areas; this may be relationships with teachers, members of governing body and other staff. In governing an institution, we need the cooperation of people working at different stages (Salahuddin, 2009). In support of this idea, change will require strong leaders - those who can build, maintain, and strengthen collaborative relationships within schools and outside of schools (Fran and Gaddy, 2001). One of the most important keys to the success of a school leader is the relationship he or she establishes with his or her staff. Importantly, relationships are the lifeblood of the school community; and help translate aspirations into experiences and are the single most powerful signifiers of communication and culture (Gelsthorpe and West-Burnham, 2003).

The school improvement literature has consistently underlined the importance of school community involvement in decision-making processes and the contribution of strong collegial relationships to positive school environment. It has been shown that effective schools have tighter congruence between values, norms and behaviors of principals and teachers and that this is more likely to result in positive school performance (Christopher and Pamel, 2013). There must be meaning full involvement of school leaders in the in school improvement evaluation process. The active participation of the school community is the major one. School improvement plan will be more successful with the cooperation of principals, teachers, student council and other groups/parents and the other members of the community (MoE, 2011a). Among leadership roles which the secondary school leaders play to build school culture, collaboration was better performed than other roles (Mengistu, 2014).

2.4.4. Professional development of School Leaders

CPD plays a great role in order to create safe and conducive school environment for teaching and learning process. High quality and continuing professional development is critical to creating and maintaining safe and supportive learning environments (Andrie, 2007).

Professional development designs that attend to school leaders incorporates activities of Surfacing (what do we currently believe and do?) of ideas, assumptions, histories, and prior knowledge; engaging in inquiry (what new knowledge can we generate?)(e.g., examining student work, conducting action research and observations, and reading and discussing recent research);

entering into dialogue and reflection that we can understand (how do we make sense of prior assumptions and practice in light of what we now know?) (Linda,2003). To support this idea, reflection, inquiry, and dialogue are the three most critical skill dimensions for improving schools (Martinez, 2001). To bring changes in schools, enabling school leaders was necessary. Even though it was necessary, secondary school leaders were not supported to cope with in changing local and global environment, including profession through continuous training and development was not given to them and which affect their performance in bringing school progress (Markos, 2011).

2.5. Tasks of School Leaders in Creating a Conducive School Environment

Efforts to improve school climate, safety, and learning are not separate endeavors and must be designed, funded, and implemented as a comprehensive school-wide approach. For creating safe and successful schools, school leaders should integrate services through collaboration, improve access to school-based mental health supports; integrate school safety and crisis/emergency prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery; balance physical and psychological safety; employ effective, positive school discipline; allow for the consideration of context; and acknowledge that sustainable and effective improvement takes patience and commitment (Cowan and Vaillancourt, 2013).

2.5.1. Building respectful and safe school

School leaders should ensure that the learning environment is healthy and safe; provide opportunities for students to engage in that promote a positive school climate and benefit the greater community; monitor and supervise all areas of the school to ensure the health and safety of all students, staff, families and visitors; create personalized and nurturing learning environments take immediate action to identify and address all acts of mean-spirited words and actions including, but not limited to name calling, teasing, exclusion, harassment and bullying behaviors (Dart, 2006).

School leaders should, send clear and consistent messages to students regarding their individual responsibility to behave responsibly and respectfully toward others, enforce rules fairly and consistently and provide opportunities to develop and foster ethical reasoning, self-control and a generalized respect for others, maintain school environments that are welcoming and friendly (Bluestein, 2001). In support of this, school leaders' most important role is to be a culture builder who instills the values of concern for others, personal and group success, and continuous improvement (Mengistu, 2014).

2.5.2. Involve participatory school environment

To foster participatory school environment, school leaders should involve teachers, students, parents and community members in decision making in order to create opportunities for contribution and responsibility (Davis, 2000). Moreover, school leaders are responsible in organizing school events which highlight the value of social and cultural diversity; mobilizing the support of the community to secure learning environments; establishing a secure and confidential office system for filing, recording and reporting cases of violence in school settings; ensuring parents participate in school committees and in monitoring the safety of their children's school environment; and ensuring boys and girls are represented and actively participate in school committees (Andrés, 2007).

2.5.3. Ensuring physical security features of School

School leaders should employ environmental design techniques, such as ensuring that playgrounds and sports fields are surrounded by fences or other natural barriers, to limit visual and physical access by non-school personnel (Hunter, 2006). To promote the effective use of identified resources and strategies to address the physical and mental health needs of students and staff, school leaders are expected to Allocate and utilize resources, including technology, to support student learning; supervise and evaluate all staff (MoE, 2013).

2.5.4. Ensure school rules and regulations

To enhance nurturing learning environment, school leaders are responsible to enforce rules fairly and consistently and provide opportunities to develop and foster ethical reasoning, self-control and a generalized respect for others(Mosel, 2004).To lead and manage school operations and resources, principals ensure that rules and regulations are consistently applied; communicate and reinforce rules and regulations to staff, student and parents; examine and modify routines, as needed, to ensure safety for all, treat all students, staff, parents and community members with respect; establish and reinforce rules, guidelines and operational procedures that enable staff to focus on teaching and learning (MoE, 2013).

2.6. Factors affecting School Leaders in Creating a Conducive School Environment

School is very complex that it might be hindered by various impediments that challenge in order to make conducive for learning (Stoll and Fink, 1996). Leadership is a very important and a critical ingredient in the process of improving school performance. However, leadership challenges identified are resource, capacity, and management related and attitudinal. More

specifically, lack of support, absence of incentives, lack of commitment, and lack of understanding, occupied with routine activities, failure to integrate school communities, weak collaboration of stakeholders and high expectation of parents identified as highest factors (Mulatu and Teketel, 2014). In support of this, there are barriers of challenges in schools that hindered the members of the schools from creating the good and healthy school cultures. Some of these are lack of understanding, lack of collaboration among the members of the school, external pressure and lack of support from community and district; and lack of good governance (Idris, 2012).

2.6.1. Leadership competency related factors

Learning can become more pleasant and effective if the school environment is more conducive and welcoming than hostile. This situation could be linked to the absence of the necessary leadership skills and appropriate leadership styles. Even though there may be other factors contributing to this situation, one major factor that could be responsible is the school leaders' lack of the necessary leadership skills and appropriate leadership styles (Mosel, 2004).

According to Abiy (2014), schools encountered challenges in creating safe and healthy school environment as per SIP blue print due to lack of awareness of the school leaders; and principals are often laid off and replaced by new ones. Professional knowledge, skill and attitude have great impact on the achievement of organizational goals and objectives and lack of skills will create an obstacle to principals (MoE, 2005). In support of this, underperforming staff is an early challenge that requires decisive and consistent action (Fidler and Atton, 2004).

Lack of understanding was created by school leaders due to low level of interest to conceptualize school environment and changing and re-changing of guidelines by top educational officials (Mulatu and Teketel, 2014). Low understanding and awareness of school leaders regarding to policy documents and guide lines to support effective school safety leads to unsafe learning school environments (Cowan and Vaillancourt, 2013). The actions of students within classrooms and the creation of safe and productive learning environment are important for many schools and can be a challenging dimension of school leaders (Liu and Breit, 2013).

2.6.2. Management related factors

Pont et al. (2008) identified the following factors as challenges to school leaders in an attempt to improve quality education: school autonomy, accountability for outcomes, role expansion, role overload, insufficient preparation and training, and lack of clarity about the core roles of school leadership. Sung tong (2007) on his part identified three major challenges that school leaders

face during school improvement: restructuring school administration and management system, financial management related and parental expectation and relation. One of the main challenges expected during ESDP IV was further improvement of the effectiveness of the educational administration at all levels, through capacity development and the creation of motivational work environments (MoE, 2010).

Less commitment of school leaders and fail to integrate implementation activities, the lack of commitment of teachers was manifested by failure to solve implementation related problems. Teachers push every piece of problem, upward and seek ready-made solutions from the school leadership. School leaders claim for the provision of incentives and the less effort of all concerned in creating awareness on the essence of the quality learning (Mulatu and Tekete, 2014). Effective school leaders recognize the potential they have to create a school environment where teachers thrive and students achieve their greatest potential in a safe and nurturing school setting (Johnston, 2001).

2.6.3. Support related factors

A strong support system is required for making the school environment conducive. The present study show the lack of support from all concerned stakeholders, mainly delays in the release of school block grants from governmental bodies (Mulatu and Teketel, 2014). In support of this, developing partnerships beyond the school to encourage parental support for learning and new learning opportunities are among the challenges facing school leaders for effective school improvement (Christopher and Pamela, 2013). Increased involvement of families and communities in school improvement activities and decreased gaps in the continuum of student support activities were problematic in secondary schools (Bluestein, 2001). Low support from top level officials and lack of involvement of the stakeholders are challenges facing school leaders (MoE, 2007b).

In order to make school improvement effective, the resources made available by the educational context are very important. Without these, schools are likely to experience difficulties in their improvement efforts (Stoll et al., 2005). Bell et al. (2003), also suggest that, in South Africa the initiatives of school improvement were faced by lack of material resources. Because of lack of facilities and organization problems, schools are not as such attractive and conducive for learning (Kifle and Tariku, 2014). In line with these, educational resources or inputs that run school forward for improvement are the highest challenges facing school leaders (Mulatu and Teketel, 2014). Therefore, the capacity of a school to grapple with the problem of designing school-wide

assessment policies and procedures is dependent on the resources available in the wider educational environment (Cheung and Evers, 2001).

The main constraints and challenges identified during review of ESDP IV implementation include: In most regions learning materials development was a challenge due to lack of budget, limited capacity among facilitators and facilitator trainers – and most did not have facilitators' guides or handbooks for learners due to budget constraints or ineffective resource allocation by regions (MoE, 2015).

In general, to promote the effective use of identified resources and strategies to address the physical and mental health needs of students and staff, school leaders are expected to allocate and utilize resources, including technology, to support student learning; supervise and evaluate all staff (MoE, 2013). School environment has relation with students' behavior and achievement. When the environment became conducive and well facilitated with the necessary facilities, it supports positively students learning, behavior and achievement. A positive school environment creates an optimal setting for teaching and learning (Solomon, 2014). On the other hand, physical environment of schools, students' responsibility and right, and other essential considerations of the school environment are vital in creating conducive school environment (Abiy, 2014).

Summary of literature

In general, school Conducive environment reinforces the teachers by providing a good stimulus for effective learning to take place. Such stimulus is not only provided by ensuring good physical plant planning but also through proper maintenance of such physical facilities. Conducive school environment where good working facilities exist is a catalyst for effective teaching and learning. In school where there is enough space for the teachers to walk round in the classroom while delivering lesson will promote rapt attention of students and good academic performance (Saifullah, 2011).

School environment which is facilitated by essential inputs such as library, laboratory with science kits, clean toilets and attractive classrooms, create conducive atmosphere for learning to be improved. Besides to this, creating conducive school environment need to meaningful participation of all stakeholders and visionary leadership. Therefore, conducive school environment facilitate for effective teaching and learning process and it encourage students' participation on their learning and enhance the academic achievements of the students. Such

kinds of school environment reduce the educational wastage (repetition, dropout, and low academic achievement of the students') (MoE, 2007a).

All students were educated in learning environments that are safe, drug-free, and conducive to learning. An environment conducive to learning is critical to foster the academic achievement of students (Andrés, 2007). School environment was learning environment created through the interaction of human relationships, physical setting, and psychological atmosphere Perkins (2006) cited in (Sarah, 2009). In safe and productive learning environments students willingly engage and participate in the broad range of learning opportunities. They contribute to decisions about their learning and their contributions are valued. A conducive school environment describes quality learning environments are created to focus on student needs and foster potential skills and interests; schools create opportunities for students to develop into self-regulating learners within and beyond the classroom; and schools value participation, and support student expression of new knowledge and understanding (ACT, 2009).

CHAPTER THREE

3. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3.1. Research Design

In this study, descriptive design was employed. This research design was required because it aims to describe the current phenomena of the study. It helps to gather data at particular points in terms of the intensions of describing the nature of existing condition, or identifying standards against which existing condition can be compared or determined the relationship that exist between specific event (Jose and Gonzales, 2002). Some of your research questions need to be revised to show relationships of independent and dependent variables so as to suit descriptive design. The research methods or approaches found to be qualitative and quantitative in nature. Hence, such method found to be appropriate for the researcher to collect opinion of respondents regarding information about school leaders' efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning in Secondary Schools of North Shoa Zone. Besides, it helps to draw valid conclusion about the events of target population. It also enabled him to gather data within a short period of time with minimum cost from wider area.

3.2. Population and sampling

According to 2015 North Shoa Zone Educational Bureau report, there were 46 secondary schools (9-12) distributed over 13 Woredas and 3 City Administration. Each Woreda or City Administration had two or more secondary schools. The total numbers of teachers in these schools were 1903, of which 1456 were males and 447 females. Each Woreda and town administration has one secondary school supervisor to provide the school with continuous educational delivery support. Each school has one principal but, not all schools have vice principals due to limited number of students.

In this study, to select sample Woreda from 13 Woredas and three City administration, four (31%) Woredas namely Yaya Gulele, Derba Tsige, Wuchale and Girar Jarso were selected by simple random sampling technique in order to provide equal chance for each Woreda to be selected due to Woredas in the Zone were homogenous in socio- economic activities, and one City administrative (Fitcha) was sampled purposively. The reason for its selection purposively is due to the City is serving as a center for the Zone.

In the sample Woredas including Fitches City Administration, there were 12 Secondary schools. To select representative sample schools from each Woreda, first schools were stratified into newly establish (below ten years) and school served above ten years. Thus, from each two strata, one secondary school is select by simple random sampling techniques except Fitch City Administrative in order to have manageable size of sample secondary schools. Hence, eight (66.7%) secondary schools were selected from four sampled Woredas and all two secondary schools were selected purposively from Fitch City administrative; because they are found at the center on the Zone. Therefore, from the 12 secondary schools of sample Woredas including Fitch City Administrative, 10 (83.3%) secondary schools are include in the study in order to secure manageability of the sample and representative secondary schools in the Zone.

The respondents of the study are select using random and non- random sampling techniques. Depend on these; the researcher uses availability sample technique for selecting school supervisors, PTA heads and SICS members. These respondents have detail and relevant information about the issues under the study. So, five supervisors, 10 PTA heads and 62 SIC members are sample. In the SIC, since students were found as members and most schools in the Zone prefer from student council as a member of SIC, student council heads are include for the purpose of this study. In the school having vice principal, he or she is include in SIC members in secondary schools of the Zone.

Lastly, to select sample teachers, the researcher employed stratified random sampling technique. Since numbers of teachers in each school were not equal and have no the same experiences, the selections of teachers were done through stratified random sampling technique to allow all population groups to be represented in the final sample. The total population of the teachers was stratified according to their experience in their respective schools. Thus, the researcher used three strata: 1 to 5 years, 5 to 11 years, and above 11 years' experience. Then, from strata 1-5 years, 5-11 years and above 11 years; 29, 30 and 31 teachers select by proportional random sampling technique respectively.

A proportional stratified sample or proportional Allocation is used when the number of subjects selected from each stratum is based on the percentage of subjects in population that have the characteristic used to form the stratum. That is, each stratum is represented in the same

proportion as represented in the population. To determine the total sample size of teachers for the study, Daniel's (199) sample size determination formula was used. This formula is used when the proportion is larger than 5% ($n/N > 0.05$), we need to use the formula with finite population correction, i.e.

$$n' = \frac{Nz^2P(1-P)}{d^2(N-1) + z^2P(1-p)}$$

Where

n' =sample size with finite population correction.

N = Population size

Z = statistic for a level of confidence, =1.96

P =Expected proportion (in proportion of one) = 0.5

d =precision (margin error) =0.05

Based on the above formula teachers in the sample secondary school were included in this study as respondents Table.

Table 1. Population, sample size and sampling techniques

No	Schools	Teachers			SIC members		PTA heads		Supervisors	
		P	S	%	P	S	P	S	P	S
1	Abdisa Aga	48	14	30	7	7	1	1	1	1
2	Fitcha No.2	26	8	30	7	7	1	1		
3	Shararo	42	12	30	5	5	1	1	1	1
4	Dahana	20	6	30	5	5	1	1		
5	Muka Turi	33	10	30	7	7	1	1	1	1
6	Ifa salale	26	8	30	7	7	1	1		
7	Ejersa kawo	22	7	30	5	5	1	1	1	1
8	Chagal	24	7	30	5	5	1	1		
9	Fital	38	11	30	7	7	1	1	1	1
10	Dire Dalati	24	7	30	7	7	1	1		
	Total	303	90	30	62	62	10	10	5	5
Sampling Techniques		Stratified Sampling Techniques			Availability		Availability		Availability	

Total P=380 Total S=167 Total %=43 P =population S =Sample %=percent

3.3. Sources of Data

For this study, two main types of data were used. These were primary sources of data and secondary sources of data.

3.3.1. Primary sources of data

The primary sources of data were teachers, SIC members, supervisors, PTA heads and observation checklist.

3.3.2. Secondary sources of data

The secondary sources of data for this study were the data that were collected through document analysis from school improvement plan, school budget plan, school facility plan, school

guidelines, co-curricular activities, school minutes, school attendances, school reports and records, training manuals, and portfolios.

3.4. Data Collection Instruments

The choice of data collection method was determined by the needs of a given research project and research design in particular by the research questions confronted. Thus, to obtain the necessary data and information regarding basic questions of the study, questionnaires, interview guide questions, document analysis, and observation checklist were employed to obtain the necessary data.

3.4.1. Questionnaire

In order to gather the appropriate information regarding the study, close and open-ended questionnaire was set and distributed to teachers and SIC members to gather the relevant information both quantitatively and qualitatively in light of the research questions and the literature reviewed for the study. The questionnaire was adapted from SIP frame work. The questionnaires included general information about the study, background information of respondents, items regarding to extent to which school environment was conducive for learning, extent to which school leaders are exerting their efforts and factors affecting them in creating a conducive school environment for learning in Secondary Schools of North Shoa Zone.

The validity and reliability of instruments were checked by pilot testing in order to standardize questionnaires for the current study. The purpose of pilot test is to examine the quality or the appropriateness of the prepared instruments. Therefore, the clarity of the items to the respondents and the adequacy of time to respond the items were evaluated. Based on the pilot results items which have problems will be amended. This was applied on peoples who are not from the sample and consultation of seniors.

The researcher was conducted pilot test outside of the sampling schools of North Shoa Zone secondary schools. So, the pilot test was conduct in Hambiso secondary school by selecting 30 teachers by simple random sampling techniques.

The reliability of the questionnaire was checked through Cronbach's alpha coefficient. Kouze and Posner (2002) stated that the reliability coefficient higher than 0.7, indicate that an instrument is reliable.

Based on the pilot test and comments given, sequences of the items, vague questions and confusing items were modified and restructured to make the questionnaire clear and ready for the final study. Then the standardized questionnaire was distributed to 90 teachers and 62 SIC members in order to collect the required research data. The questionnaires were duly filled and completed by all respondents. In most cases, the questionnaire was filled out on face-to-face bases (in the presence of on the site the researcher oriented and clarified unclear items for the respondents).for SIC a member, questionnaires were prepared first in English and later on translated into Afanoromo by expertise. This is mainly because to make the question items more clearly for respondents who were unable to understand English and to make it simple.

3.4.2. Interview guide

If interview is conducted well it could produce in depth data not possible with a questionnaire and cross check the findings from the questionnaire. With this in mind, semi-structured interview was conducted with supervisors and PTA heads of secondary schools exhaustively with patience. Because, they have detail and relevant information about school environment and were front school leaders. Then after the record data were categorized based on similarities of responses and then translated into English version by an expert for analysis and discussion.

3.4.3. Document review

The document review was undertaken by analyzing school improvement plans whether the plans were prepared properly and addressed a conducive learning school environment for learning or not. School budget plan, school facility plan, co-curricular activities, school guide lines, school minutes, school attendance, school reports and records, in staff training manuals and portfolios were analyzed.

3.4.4. Observation

To triangulate the findings, the researcher employed observation as data gathering tool as per the checklist adapted from SIP manuals to observe the natural settings in secondary schools.

3.5. Methods of Data Analysis

To analyze the data of the study, the researcher gathered all the information from the completed questionnaires, interviews, documents and observation both qualitatively and quantitatively. The data gathered through questionnaires were tailed and tabulated appropriately. The Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) software version 20 for windows will be employed for data

analysis. To analyze the tabulated data and arrive at conclusions, appropriate statistical tools such as frequency counts, percentages, mean score and average weighted mean was employed. Descriptive statistics such as mean, frequency and percentage was used to analyze about the background information of the respondents. Finally, the data that collected through open ended questions, interview guided, and document review, and observation were analyzed qualitatively by using narration.

3.6. Ethical Considerations

In social science research, ethical considerations are critical when researching people or animals. The ethical issues include: known benefits and risk of participant involvement in the research, exact description of the information to be delivered to the subjects of the study, when appropriate, indicate any special incentives of treatment that human subjects would receive through their participation in the study, indicate how the data collected in the study would be kept secured and confidential, discuss the procedure for informed consent by the study participants where applicable. Also anonymity, respect for the subjects, kindness and justice, whether the objectives of the study were ethically achievable, and the ethical soundness of the methods are considered by the researcher.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

This chapter deals with presentation and discussion of data obtained through questionnaires, interviews, and document review and observation checklist. The chapter is divided into five parts. The first part presents and deals with the characteristics of respondents. The second part discusses about the extent to which secondary school environments are conducive for learning. The third part discusses about the extent to which school leaders exert their role in creating conducive school environment for learning. The fourth part deals with factors affecting school leaders in creating conducive school environment for learning.

4.1. Characteristics of the Respondents

All respondents of selected secondary schools were asked to indicate their background information in the questionnaire. Responses on their sex, age, and educational qualification, work experience in year, position, and trainings were summarized as indicated in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Background information of the respondents

No	Characteristics		Respondents									
			Teachers		PTA heads		SIC members		Supervisors		Total	
			N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
1	Sex	Male	64	70.1	10	100	48	77.4	5	100	127	74.4
		Female	26	29.9	-	-	14	22.6	-	-	40	25.6
		Total	90	100	10	100	62	100	5	100	167	100
2	Age	20-29 year	30	33.6	-	-	20	34.2	-	-	50	31.3
		29-40 years	45	47.7	-	-	30	47.9	5	100	80	46.7
		40-50 years	15	18.7	10	100	12	17.8	-	-	37	22
		50 and above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Educational qualification	Certificate	-	-	2	20	2	2.7	-	-	4	2.1
		Diploma	-	-	2	20	7	9.6	-	-	9.	4.6
		1 st degree	82	91.2	1	10	18	38.4	5	100	106	64.6
		Master's degree	8	8.8	-	-	3	6.8		-	11	10.3
		Any other	-		5	50	32	42.5	-	-	37	18.4
4	work Experience	≤ 5 years	18	16.8	1	10	19	26	-	-	38	19.5
		6-12 years	22	29.9	-	-	9	12.3	4	80	35	23.1
		12-17 years	25	28.0	-	-	25	49.3	1	20	51	34.3
		≥ 18 years	25	25.2	9	90	9	12.3	-	-	43	23.1
5	Experience in their school	1-5 years	28	32.7	2	20	20	31.5	-	-	50	30.1
		5-11 years	30	33.6	1	10	22	35.6	3	60	56	33.8
		11 years and above	32	33.6	7	70	20	33.8	2	40	61	35.3
6	Position	Teaching staff	90	100	-	-	10	13.7	-	-	100	60
		Principal	-	-	-	-	10	13.7	-	-	10	5.1
		Vice principal	-	-	-	-	10	13.7	-	-	10	5.1
		Student council	-	-	-	-	10	13.7	-	-	10	5.1
		Supervisor	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	100	5	2.6
		Any other	-	-	10	100	33	45.2	-	-	43	22.1
7	Trainings	Leadership	-	-	-	-	3	4.1	-	-	3	1.5
		SIP	24	22.4	-	-	18	24.6	4	80	46	23.5
		TDP	19	17.7	-	-	10	13.7	1	20	30	15.3
		Others	47	59.8	10	100	32	57.6	-	-	87	52.5

As indicated in Table 2, 64 (70.1%) of teachers were male and 26(29.9%) of teachers were female. Similarly, All 10 of PTA heads, 48 (77.4%) of SIC members and All five supervisors were male whereas only 14 (22.6%) of SIC members were female. This showed most respondents, 145 (74.4%), in secondary school were male.

Regarding to the age of respondents, 80 (46.7%) of respondents were aged between 29-40 years. This implies most respondents were youngsters. This can affect learning environment positively because, they were at productive age group in creating conducive environment for learning.

When we see the educational background of the respondents, 82 (91.2%) of teachers were first degree holders. Whereas, the rest 8 (8.8%) of them were master degree holders. As per MoE policy, a desired qualification of teachers for secondary schools is master degree holders. Therefore, teachers in secondary schools were qualified to the standard. Except PTA heads, the SIC members were first degree holders. However only five (6.8%) of the total SIC members were master degree holders. This implies a few principal and vice principal in SIC members were master degree holders. But according to MoE policy, they should have master degree to lead secondary schools. As stipulated in ESDP V, during ESDP IV percentage of secondary schools with qualified school leaders in master's degree was low (MoE, 2015).

When we see the work experience of the respondents, 18 (16.8%) of teachers, One of PTA heads, 19 (26%) of SIC members and none of supervisors had an experience of less than 5 years. On the other hand, 25 (25.2%) of teachers, nine (90%) of PTA heads, nine (12.3%) of SIC members and none of supervisors were experienced greater than 18 years. The rest 112 (57.4%) of respondents, were ranged between 5-11 years' experience. This implies most of the respondents were experienced enough to run school activity functions. From the total respondents, 61 (35.3%) of them have an experience greater than 11 years in their respective schools. Thus, most of the respondents were experienced enough and had awareness about their school nature and culture.

Regarding position assignment of respondents, all 90 teachers were teaching staff. Similarly all of the PTA heads were selected from community and they lead as head of PTA members in

secondary schools. In the SIC members, 10 (13.7%) of teaching staff, 10 (13.7%) principals, 10 (13.7%) vice principals, and 10 (13.7%) student's councils were included.

The others, 33 (45.2%), had other positions in their respective sites. On the other hand, all supervisors were served as supervision function to support secondary schools.

According to item 7 of Table 2, 24 (22.4%) and 19 (17.7%) of teachers were trained in SIP and TDP respectively. But, only 18 (24.6%) and 10 (13.7%) of SIC members were trained in SIP and TDP respectively. Similarly, four (80%) and one (20%) of supervisors were trained in SIP and TDP respectively. As presented in ESDP V, during ESDP IV percentage of secondary schools satisfied with their CPD program was low (MoE, 2015). Only three (4.1%) of SIC members were trained in leadership. Hence, this has implication that school leaders didn't get appropriate trainings for school activity function in order to create conducive learning environment in secondary schools.

4.2. Conduciveness of school Environment for Learning

Teachers and SIC members were asked to respond their level of agreement to what extent secondary school environment was conducive for learning. Based on the responses of teachers and SIC members indicated in tables 3 to 5, the responses was discussed accordingly as follows.

Each item was designed in the form of five rating scales. These are strongly disagree, disagree, undecided, agree, and strongly agree. Also very low, low, average, high, and very high were part of the rating scale. The values given were 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively. Thus, the average mean score is 3.00. In the interpretation, effort was put to show that what the mean score indicates. As forwarded by Fowler (1996), the result obtained from the score was interpreted as following. If $1.00 \leq \text{mean score} \leq 1.49$, it was interpreted as highly disagreed, if $1.50 \leq \text{mean score} \leq 2.49$, it was interpreted as disagree, if $2.50 \leq \text{mean score} \leq 3.49$, it was interpreted as agreed in average/moderate, if $3.50 \leq \text{mean score} \leq 4.49$, it was interpreted as agree. If the mean score was ≥ 4.50 , it was interpreted as strongly agree.

Table 3. Teachers' and SIC members' views to word Extent Conduciveness of School Environment for learning regarding to school facilities

No	Items	Respondents	Mean	Total mean	SD
1	My school has secured fence and attractive premises that enabled students to attend class regularly.	Teachers	3.14	3.30	1.39
		SIC members	3.47		
2	Favorable classroom contexts have enhanced students' learning motivation.	Teachers	2.46	2.44	1.32
		SIC members	2.42		
3	My school has standard teaching-learning aides and materials which contribute to successful learning – teaching process (laboratory, library, pedagogical center, teachers' resting room, sport field etc.).	Teachers	2.31	2.33	1.14
		SIC members	2.36		
4	School community benefited from adequate access to standard toilets particularly designated for ladies and gentle men together with water facilities, which satisfied users; and behavioral changes have been observed.	Teachers	2.75	2.77	1.42
		SIC members	2.79		
5	My school has facilitated access and use of complete information and commutation technology for teaching purposes (plasma, computer, internet access, etc.)	Teachers	2.36	2.42	1.26
		SIC members	2.47		
Grand mean				2.65	1.31

In item 1 of Table 3, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate, whether their school environment had secured fence and attractive premises that enabled students to attend their class regularly or not. Accordingly, the mean score of the teachers and SIC members were 3.14 and 3.47 respectively. This shows secondary schools had somewhat secured fence and premises that enabled students to attend their class regularly. According to observation made by the researcher, school fences were somewhat secured in All observed schools.

Regarding to item 2 of Table 3, the respondents were asked to rate whether favorable and inspiring classroom contexts have enhanced students' learning motivation in their schools or not. The mean scores of teachers (2.46) and SIC members (2.42) showed that both of the two groups disagreed to the specified item.

All of the supervisors said that: "classroom's contexts did not enhance learning motivation of students". The researcher also observed that, classrooms in some schools were not attractive enough to retain students in class regularly. The most prevalent criteria used to define learning environment are probably the physical arrangement of the classroom, discipline and routines, organization of learning activities, and the engagement of students with tasks, among others (Hamre, 2005). According to (Tsigereda, 2014), students are not motivated to sustain their learning encouragement in the teaching learning process.

According to item 3 of Table 3, the means score of teachers (2.31) and SIC members (2.36) shows, both teachers and SIC members disagreed to the item that deals with the presence of standard teaching-learning aides and materials which contributes to successful learning-teaching process (laboratory, library, pedagogical center, teachers' resting room, sport field etc.). The total mean values (2.33) supplement the opinion of both teachers and SIC members.

From the review of document analysis of most schools, budget plan did not incorporate appropriate budget for teaching and learning and no school facility plan were available in most selected schools. Most of supervisors replied that "secondary schools were not facilitated with standard teaching –learning aids and materials; no laboratory furnished with chemicals and apparatus. Libraries were not standardized and no enough updated reference books. These lead to the conclusion that secondary schools had low standard teaching-learning aides and materials which contribute to successful learning – teaching process.

In government sector libraries are not present for teachers and students. Laboratories are essential at secondary school level especially for science students, but in government schools facilities and equipment related to experiments do not exist adequately (Ihuoma, 2008). In

support of this, the libraries and laboratories of the schools could not provide the service to students due to lack of attention the administration to assign trained personnel (Abiy, 2012).

In item 4 of Table 3, the average mean scores (2.77) of teachers, and SIC members shows that to some extent the community benefited from the access to standard toilets particularly designated for ladies and gentles together with water facilities satisfying users. According to observation made by the researcher, most sample schools had toilets designed for ladies and gentles. Even though there was tap water, no water facility was designed and available for toilet purpose. Separate latrine by standing alone blocks is very limited, in which case girls are forced to use the same blocks and roles to facilitate hand washing facilities, including water and soaps, are available in schools (MoE, 2010).

As it is revealed in item 5 of Table 3, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent to which access and use of information and commutation technology was facilitated for teaching purposes. The mean score of teachers and SIC members were 2.36 and 2.47 respectively. The two groups disagreed with the specified item. Hence, the mean scores of the two groups show that secondary school had inadequate facility of access and use of complete information and commutation technology for teaching purposes.

Interview conducted with PTA heads and supervisors revealed that in some secondary schools “access and use of information and communication technology were not facilitated adequately, for example, computers, plasma and internet services that aid learning and teaching material.

From the document review, no adequate budget were planned to facilitate access and use of technology. The observation conducted by the researchers as a supplement indicated that, plasma televisions were not functional and almost no internet services were available in most secondary schools. This shows that there was no adequate access and use of information and communication technology in secondary schools.

Table 4. School environment regarding student's empowerment Teacher's and SIC members' views

No	Items	Respondents	Mean	Total mean	SD
1	There is culture of student participation in decision making process that enhanced students' willingness to take responsibility and self-discinlined culture	Teachers	3.21	3.12	1.24
		SIC members	3.04		
2	My school provides opportunity for gender equality of students to participate in school leadership (e.g., clubs)	Teachers	2.32	2.19	0.98
		SIC members	2.07		
3	Issues related to family life education have been integrated in my school.	Teachers	2.55	2.46	1.05
		SIC members	2.37		
4	Students demonstrated acceptable behavioral change.	Teachers	2.64	2.60	1.14
		SIC members	2.56		
5	Students demonstrate acceptable sense of responsibility in the teaching-learning process.	Teachers	3.38	3.34	1.28
		SIC members	3.30		
Grand mean				2.74	1.14

In item 1 of Table 4, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent to what there was participation of students in decision making process. The mean scores of teachers and SIC members were 3.21 and 3.04 respectively. This shows that both groups to some extent participated in Interview conducted with PTA heads and supervisors revealed that: “student’s participation in decision making in secondary schools was not enough” Decision making aspects. One of the respondents in an open ended question forwarded that there was school plan for promotion of students’ participation in decision making like students’ council, parliaments and class meeting.

Document review of students' minutes in some school shows, students participated in decision making for progressing school success and discipline culture. Students who are given responsibilities and opportunities to lead and contribute build competencies and self-confidence. The delegation of responsibility signals to students and teachers that their opinions were valuable, and it transmits the expectation that they were capable of problem solvers (Andrés, 2007).

In item 2 of Table 4, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate their level of agreement regarding secondary schools provision of opportunity for gender equality of students to participate in school leadership. The averages mean score of teachers, and SIC members were (2.19), which shows disagreement of responses to the item. During interview conducted with all of the supervisors, said: "there were gender issue club which was working for gender equality in secondary schools, real provision of equal opportunity to participate in school leadership was not enough". From document review of co-curricular activities, it was noticed that all of clubs leaders were male students. The researcher did not observe when female students lead class meetings and serve as a class monitor.

The above finding shows the extent secondary schools provide opportunity for gender equality of students to participate in school leadership was poor. Providing opportunities for students to engage in activities (clubs, leadership activities, service learning and peer mentoring) that promote a positive school environment and benefit the greater community was challenging in government schools (Robert, 2005). In support of this, students had the right to express their opinion and take part in decision making activities; however, they were not empowered to lead clubs through which co-curricular activities were carried out (Abiy, 2012).

In item 3 of Table 4, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent to which issues related to family life education have been integrated in school. The mean score of teachers (2.55) shows uncertainty for the specified item. While the mean score of SIC members (2.37) shows, SIC members disagreed with the item. The total mean score (2.46) shows both teachers and SIC disagreed with the item.

As per the document review, no training manuals and documentation related to issues related to family life education, even about HIV/AIDS, were available. From all respondents during conducting interview replied that: “experts from Woreda health sector was not enough to aware about reproductive health and family life education in secondary schools”. Hence, issues related to family life education were questionable in secondary schools. Access to school-based mental health services and supports directly improves students’ physical and psychological safety, academic performance, and social–emotional learning. However, no adequate school-employed mental health professionals (school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and in some cases, school nurses) were available to ensure that services are high quality, effective, and appropriate to the school context (Wilson, 2003). To sum up, fully enrichment of curriculum with modules on children rights, women’s rights, peace education, tolerance, sexual and gender-based violence, HIV and AIDS and reproductive health were Problematic in diversified schools (Duncan, 2013).

Regarding to item 4 of Table 4, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate extent students demonstrated acceptable behavioral change. The mean scores of teachers and SIC members were 2.64 and 2.56 respectively. The two groups displayed that students demonstrated to a certain extent acceptable behavioral change. From the analysis of school minutes, it was found that some students were forced to bring their parents and advised for their misbehavior. When students believe that their teachers care about them, see them as competent, respect their views and desire their success, they tend to work toward fulfilling those high expectations. Unfortunately, many schools have not fostered such positive student-teacher relationships (Johnston, 2001). This implies that students demonstrated acceptable behavioral change moderately; but not to the high expectation in secondary Schools.

In item 5 of Table 4, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate their level of agreement regarding to the extent to what students demonstrate acceptable sense of responsibility in the teaching-learning. The average means core of teachers, and SIC members (3.34) shows that students somehow demonstrate acceptable sense of responsibility. During document review of classroom meeting minutes of students, it was found that students raised their responsibility in taking academic risk and teaching- learning process. The involvement and commitment of the whole school community is required to achieve a culture in which safe and respectful schools are everyone’s concern and responsibility (Nansel and Overpeck, 2001). Students are not confident

enough to share their ideas and accept comments even though their teachers and classmates respect their perceptions (Tsigereda, 2014).

Table 5. School Environment regarding student support Teachers' and SIC members' views

No	Items	Respondents	Mean	Total mean	SD
1	All students have equal opportunities to realize their potential and my school has paid special attention particularly for female students.	Teachers	2.64	2.65	0.87
		SIC members	2.67		
2	My school provides All rounded support to students, which helped to minimize wastage of resources.	Teachers	2.20	2.28	0.89
		SIC members	2.37		
3	My school’s rules and procedures properly implemented to avoid unacceptable behavior such as hostility, stigma and discrimination, violence, threat, brawling and any other misconduct.	Teachers	2.37	2.41	1.02
		SIC members	2.47		
5	Special needs education has been integrated in continuous professional development (CPD) program	Teachers	2.51	2.46	0.98
		SIC members	2.41		
5	The school has implemented special needs education program supported by the provision of trained teachers required for leadership of the program where adequate materials and facilities are fulfilled.	Teachers	2.03	2.09	0.71
		SIC members	2.16		
Grand mean			2.38		0.98

In item 1 of Table 5, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent to which all students were given equal opportunities to realize their potential and schools paid special attention particularly for female students. The average mean score of teachers (2.64) and SIC members (2.67) shows, both groups neither agreed nor disagreed.

Interview conducted with PTA heads and supervisors revealed that: “there was plan to support and encourage female students to realize their potential in secondary schools and all students

were given tutorial to support them”. Up on document review, attendance of female students given tutorial to support them was available in some schools. The researcher also observed when female students were given tutorial lesson in most secondary schools. Education staff served as models and advocated for the equitable treatment of girls and women in school (Duncan, 2013). These all above show equal opportunities were provided for students to realize their potential and special attention particularly for female students were given in secondary schools moderately.

Regarding to item 2 of Table 5, the average mean scores of teachers, SIC members and total mean were (2.20), (2.37) and (2.28) respectively. This shows both teachers and SIC members disagreed that secondary schools provide all rounded support to students, which helped to minimize wastage of resources. Hence, supports were not given for students to minimize wastage of resources. One of the respondents in an open ended item revealed that, educational wastage was significant and the number of students dropped out increases from year to year; the school only report number of students dropped out than to work hard for minimizing it.

During document analysis, secondary schools reports showed that absenteeism and high dropout rate were significant and problematic. The researcher observed that the number of students attending class varies from day to day in secondary schools. Hence, absenteeism was significantly observed which can bring educational wastage. In spite of the role made, child-friendly schools did not show progress in reducing dropout and repetition rates over the program years (UNICEF, 2010).

According to item 3 of Table 5, both teachers and SIC members were asked to hold their position regarding to proper implementation of school’s rules and procedures to avoid unacceptable behavior. The mean scores of teachers (2.37) and SIC members (2.47) show respondents ratified their position with disagreed to the item. All of the respondents from interviewees replied: “the school does not implement rules and procedures properly per the blue print”. The document analysis showed that school guidelines were not available in most secondary schools to regulate schools functions. Children may also be abused and exploited on their way to and from school, either because they are far from the relative safety of the school environment (especially in rural areas) or because of general insecurity in their vicinity. In the latter case, they may fall prey to gang violence, attacks by armed groups or sexual harassment (Saxon, 2005). All schools have been provided with a well-articulated code of conduct to be observed by teachers, students and the school community at large (UNICEF, 2010). These all

above show proper implementation of rules and procedures secondary schools was not significantly observed.

In item 4 of Table 5, both teachers and SIC members were asked to hold their position regarding to integration of special needs education in CPD program in their school. The mean scores of teachers and SIC members were 2.51 and 2.41 respectively. This shows teachers found to be doubtful for the item specified and that of SIC members disagreed. The total mean (2.46) indicates that both teachers and SIC members disagreed in rating the item. Therefore, special needs education was not integrated in CPD program in secondary schools. During interview conducted, most of the supervisors replied that: “no practical integration of special need education was observed during CPD works in all secondary schools”. From document analysis, no issue of special needs education in teachers’ portfolios.

The researcher observed that there were no concerns regarding special need education in teachers’ portfolio. This shows integration of special need education in CPD program in secondary schools was over sighted.

As indicated in item 5 of Table 5, both teachers and SIC members were asked to hold their position regarding implementation of special needs education supported by the provision of trained teachers required for leadership of the program where adequate materials and facilities are fulfilled in secondary schools. The mean values of teachers (2.03), SIC members (2.16) and the total mean (2.09) show both teachers and SIC members disagreed with the specified item.

To an open ended item, one of the respondents revealed that nobody rise, even informally, about special need education program in secondary schools.

All supervisors seriously replied that: “no attention was given for special need students” in all secondary schools. The researcher observed no trained teachers, materials and facilities facilitated for special need students. As presented in ESDP V, poor school infrastructure, facilities and adapted teaching and learning materials for special need education – along with the absence of standards and guidelines (MoE, 2015). Hence, based on the above arguments, secondary schools didn’t implement special needs education program.

Over all, the grand mean scores of teachers and SIC members in rating items with respect to school facilities, students empowerment and students support were (2.65), (2.74) and (2.38) respectively. This shows that secondary school environment was moderately conducive for learning regarding to school facilities and students empowerment. However, the extent to which students were supported in schools was underway in secondary schools. Good students' achievement and behavior requires conducive environment such as healthy, safe, well facilitated, care and support based relationship and participatory environment, so as to let students to achieve the worth learning goals including appropriate academic achievement and behavior. However, schools were unable to manage and properly utilize the necessary facilities that they have and fail to create harmonious relationship between students and teachers (Solomon, 2014).

4.3. Extent school leaders exert their role in creating conducive School environment for learning

School leaders should lead and manage school operations and resources. In this case they establish and maintain a safe and secure school environment, create a nurturing learning environment that addresses the physical and mental health needs of all students and staff. Moreover they mobilize, Allocate and utilize resources, including technology, to support student and staff learning (MoE, 2013). Fully integrated learning supports (e.g., behavioral, mental health, and social services), instruction, and school management within a comprehensive, cohesive approach facilitates multidisciplinary collaboration (Addinton, 2009). School leaders should strive to increase access to mental health services, increase the number of school employed mental health staff, and ensure that measures to improve school safety balance physical safety with psychological safety (Bluestein, 2001).

Teachers and SIC members respondents were asked to respond their level of agreement about the extent to which school leaders are exerting their role in creating conducive school environment for learning. Based on the responses of teachers and SIC members indicated in tables (6), (7), and (8), their responses were discussed accordingly as follows.

Each item was designed in the form of five rating scales. These are very low, low, moderate, high and very high. The values given were 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively. Thus, the average mean score is 3.00. As forwarded by Fowler (1996), in the interpretation, effort was put to show that

what the mean score indicates. The result obtained from the score was interpreted as following. If $1.00 \leq \text{mean score} \leq 1.49$, it was interpreted as very low, if $1.50 \leq \text{mean score} \leq 2.49$, it was interpreted as low, if $2.50 \leq \text{mean score} \leq 3.49$, it was interpreted as moderate, if $3.50 \leq \text{mean score} \leq 4.49$, it was interpreted as high. If the mean score was ≥ 4.50 , it was interpreted as very high.

Table 6.Roles Exerted by School Leaders to arrival To School Facilities Teachers' and Sic Members' Views

No	Items	Respondents	Mean	Total mean	SD
	To what extents school leaders:				
1	Formulate and communicate a common vision in school to make school environment attractive premises.	Teachers	3.11	3.08	1.23
		SIC members	3.05		
2	Prepare school facility plan.	Teachers	1.78	1.72	1.02
		SIC members	1.66		
3	Allocate budget for school facilities those aid learning.	Teachers	2.54	2.53	0.97
		SIC members	2.52		
4	Make effort in creating school environment whereby all the necessary facilities are provided for teachers and students to enable learning.	Teachers	2.15	2.14	1.28
		SIC members	2.14		
5	Involve partners (Parents, NGOs, etc.) to fulfill school facilities	Teachers	2.18	2.16	0.86
		SIC members	2.14		
6	Maintain and manage school facilities properly	Teachers	2.79	2.87	1.18
		SIC members	2.95		
Grand mean			2.40		1.03

As indicated in item 1 of Table 6 above, the average mean scores of teachers (3.11) and SIC members (3.05) shows that school leaders exert their role moderately in formulating and communicating a common vision in school to make school environment attractive premises.

Moreover most respondents during interview conducted with PTA heads replied that: “school leaders somehow monitor the degree to which beliefs, behaviors and practices are consistent with the vision and effect changes accordingly.

During document analysis, school improvement plan showed that there was vision and mission for students learning motivation. According to observation made by the researcher, there were vision and mission of the schools and students posted in some secondary schools and school environment was somewhat attractive. Principals and administrators create the vision, establish the agenda, communicate the goals and lead by example. The best leaders are well organized; task oriented and well informed (Earley and Weindling, 2004). Hence, school leaders exerted their role moderately order to formulate and communicate a common vision in school to make school environment attractive premises.

Regarding to item 2 of Table 6, the average mean scores of teachers (1.78), SIC members (1.66) show role made by school leaders in preparing school facility plan was low. According to one of the respondents to an open ended question, there is no school facility plan prepared by school leaders in order to facilitate materials and equipment those aid learning in secondary schools. According to interview conducted with one of the supervisors, school leader’s oversight agenda regarding to preparation of school facility plan in secondary schools. During document analysis there is no available school facility plan prepared by school leaders in most secondary schools. So, these all implies school leaders made low role in preparing school facility plan in secondary schools.

In item 3 of Table 6, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent to which school leaders allocate budget for school facilities those aid learning. The average mean scores of teachers (2.54) and SIC members (2.52) and total mean (2.53) show school leaders’ made no clear role in allocating budget for school facilities those aid learning.

During interview conducted, all of the supervisors said: “however school leader exert their role to Allocate budget for reference books and school pedagogical center, they failed to Allocate budget for information and communication technologies (computers, internet service, plasma, etc.), laboratory with chemicals and apparatus, sport fields and others”. During document review, most school budget plans do not focus on facilitating school facility. The researcher, from his observation, confirmed this. Therefore, the extent school leaders strive their role in Allocating budget aiding learning was low.

As depicted in item 4 of Table 6, respondents were asked to rate extent school leaders' endeavor their role in creating school environment whereby all the necessary facilities are provided for teachers and students to enable learning. Accordingly, the average means scores of teachers (2.15) and SIC members (2.14) show low role made by school leaders regarding the item.

During conducting interview, all of the respondents from supervisors replied: "school leaders were unable to facilitate teaching-learning aides and materials which contribute to successful learning – teaching process practically; specially laboratory and library are underway and over sighted by school leaders". In support of this, teachers and the school don't provide enough tools to facilitate the learning process as per perceived by students (Tsigereda, 2014). Hence, the extent school leader's endeavor their role in creating school environment whereby all the necessary facilities are provided for teachers and students to enable learning was low in secondary schools.

As presented in item 5 of Table 6, respondents were asked to rate to what extent school leaders involve partners (Parents, NGOs, etc.) to fulfill school facilities, The average mean score of teachers (2.18), SIC members (2.14) and total mean (2.16) show that the extent school leaders to involve partners (parents, NGOs, etc.) to fulfill school facilities was low. School leaders as communicators in the community have dual, not necessarily compatible roles: presenting themselves positively and promoting links with, and understanding among, with parents (Stephen, 2009). To conclude, the extent school leaders exert their role in involving partners to fulfill school facilities was low.

Table 7. Efforts Exerted By School Leaders Their to Empower Students, Teachers' and Sic Members' Views

No	Items	Respondents	Mean	Total mean	SD
	To what extents school leaders:				
1	Allow students to know school guidelines that govern students conduct.	Teachers	2.50	2.47	1.24
		SIC members	2.44		
2	Involve students in decision making process to make it democratic and participatory.	Teachers	3.07	2.98	0.98
		C members	2.90		
3	Empower students to maintain discipline in school.	Teachers	3.04	3.16	1.23
		SIC members	3.19		
4	Endeavor their efforts to participate students fairly in school leadership activities.	Teachers	2.38	2.31	1.26
		SIC members	2.25		
5	Ensure students’ sense of responsibility so that they feel free to express their opinions in school fairly.	Teachers	2.63	2.61	0.64
		SIC members	2.60		
6	Initiate students for their successful learning.	Teachers	2.60	2.63	0.86
		SIC members	2.67		
Grand mean			2.69		1.03

In item 1 of table 7, the mean score of teachers (2.50) shows school leaders moderately allow students to know school guidelines that govern their conduct. The mean score of SIC members (2.44) shows low role were attempted by school leaders regarding to the item specified. The total mean (2.47) shows low role were made by school leaders regarding to the item. During document analysis no short trainings manuals were available on school guidelines in most secondary schools. These lead to conclude that low role were attempted by school leaders to Allow students to know school guidelines that governs students conduct.

In item 2 of Table 7, the average mean score of teachers (3.07), SIC members (2.90) and total mean (2.98) show school leaders involve students to participate in decision making process moderately. All of the respondents from supervisors said that: “school leaders put in place several strategies that enable the students to participate in the decision making process of the school; for instance, student council, children’s parliament and class meetings could be mentioned among others”. From document review, there were evidences of school minutes showing that students were encouraged and participated in decision making regarding to their needs. The researcher observed when students created meeting for discussion on teaching – learning process. Hence, these all above infer school leaders to a certain extent participate students in decision making process in different angles mentioned so far.

As presented in item 3 of Table 7, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent school leaders empower students to maintain discipline in school. The average means score of teachers (3.04) and SIC members (3.19) show moderate role were exerted by school leaders toward the item specified. All of PTA heads replied that: “school leaders sometimes advice students to develop their social skills, self-discipline, compassion and ethic and so they are responsible for their behavior”. Hence, school leaders empower students to maintain discipline problem moderately. School leaders generate norms for discipline, behavior and partnerships in cooperative learning (Andrés, 2007). .

As presented in item 4 of Table 7, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent school leaders endeavor their role to participate students fairly in school leadership activities. The mean scores of teachers (2.38) and SIC members (2.25) show low role were exerted by school leaders toward the item specified. During document review of curricula activities, there was gender disparity of students in leading clubs and committee. So, extent school leader’s endeavor their roles to participate students fairly in school leadership activities were low.

In item 5 of Table 7, the average mean score of teachers (2.63) and SIC members (2.60) show school leaders exert their role moderately in order to ensure students’ sense of responsibility so that they feel free to express their opinions in school fairly. During conducting interview, All of the supervisors said that: “school leaders encourage students to raise their idea freely when they were encountered with problems in teaching- learning process”.

Regarding to item 6 of Table 7, the mean score of teachers (2.60) and SIC members (2.67) show that, school leaders exert their role moderately in order to initiate students for their successful learning. All of the interviewees said that: “school leaders sometimes encourage students to be successful in their education and reward best performed students”. Students are not motivated enough to sustain their learning encouragement in the teaching learning process (Tsigereda, 2014). So, moderate role were exerted by school leaders in initiating students for their successful learning.

Table 8. School leaders exert effort in creating conducive school environment regarding to students support Teachers’ and SIC members’ views

No	Items	Respondents	Mean	Total mean	SD
	To what extents school leaders:				
1	Monitor and ensure provision of equal opportunities for students to realize their potential.	Teachers	2.64	2.58	0.72
		SIC members	2.52		
2	Broadly involve and collaborate with families to address environment that supports student achievement and well-being.	Teachers	2.42	2.45	0.96
		SIC members	2.48		
3	Adopt a vision and action plan for building and sustaining safe, respectful and healthy environment.	Teachers	2.40	2.36	0.89
		SIC members	2.32		
4	Allocate and utilize budget appropriately for designed expenditure in students’ healthy and safety.	Teachers	2.38	2.35	1.02
		SIC members	2.33		
5	Ensure that the school rules and regulations are uniformly observed.	Teachers	2.68	2.64	0.78
		SIC members	2.59		
6	Work collaboratively for implementing professional development of the staff.	Teachers	2.50	2.49	0.78
		SIC members	2.48		
7	Treat students with special needs.	Teachers	2.17	2.13	0.52
		SIC members	2.08		
	Grand mean			2.43	0.81

In item 1 of Table 8, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate extent school leaders monitor and ensure provision of equal opportunities for students. The mean score of teachers (2.64), and SIC members (2.52) show school leaders moderately exerted their role to the specified item.

Most of the respondents from supervisors confirmed that school leaders encourage students of both sexes in devising and disseminating codes of conduct. During document review, school leaders have a format to monitor whether they were delivered tutorial lesson or not. According to observation made by the researcher, there was a check list to monitor whether female students were supported by teachers in giving tutorial lessons. Hence, school leaders highly strive their effort in providing equal opportunities for students to realize their potential in secondary schools.

As indicated in item 2 of Table 8, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate extent school leaders broadly involve and collaborate with families to address environment that supports student achievement and well-being.

The average mean score of teachers (2.42), SIC members (2.48) and total mean score (2.45) shows responses of the two groups fall on the position “low” in rating the specified item.

No adequate school minutes were available regarding to this issue in most secondary school. In support of this, the researcher observed when few numbers of families discuss on their children with school leaders. During conducting interview, all of PTA heads replied that: “school leader’s work with and support families to identify and address their critical role to assist in providing a safe and healthy productive learning environment occasionally”. To this end, low role were strived by school leaders toward co-operation with families in creating a welcoming school environment. Parents and community members should feel that their school has a welcoming environment. Barrier to effective communication and collaboration of school leaders with parents and the community affects students’ out comes negatively (Hamre, 2005).

As depicted in Table 8, in item 3 respondents were asked to rate extent school leaders adopt a vision and action plan for building and sustaining safe, respectful and healthy environments. Accordingly, the mean score of teachers and SIC members were 2.40 and 2.32 respectively.

This means the mean scores supplement each other and it implies low role were employed by school leaders regarding to the item.

According to observation made, role made by school leaders in implementing action plans that systemically seek to incorporate health and safety of all students into existing school improvement roles and evaluating the effectiveness of the implementation of the plans was poor. Promoting relationships among teachers by establishing common planning time, interdisciplinary work teams and collaborative work opportunities were problematic for most school leaders (Earthman, 2004). These leads to the conclusion, low role were made by school leaders regarding to vision and action plan for creating and sustaining safe and healthy environments in secondary schools.

Regarding item 4 of Table 8, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate extent school leaders exert their role to allocate and utilize budget appropriately. The mean scores of teachers and SIC members were 2.38 and 2.33 during rating the specified item. This shows that, both mean scores supplement each other and reflect role made by school leaders is low in Allocating and utilizing budget appropriately.

According to interview conducted with PTA, they said that: “school leaders fail to generate budget so that no enough budget was Allocated for students’ healthy and safety”. During document review of school budget plans, inadequate budget was allocated for designed expenditure in students’ health and safety. From the observation made, no evidence observed to activities, like HIV/AIDS clubs, cross red and first-aid kits, in school regarding to students’ health and safety. Strategic planning and budgeting system practiced in secondary schools cannot adequately benefited for better improvement (Sileshi, 2015). Hence, attention school leaders gave regarding to budget Allocation and utilization for designed expenditure in students’ health and safety was low in secondary schools.

As indicated in item5 of Table 8, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent to which school leaders were exerted their role in order to ensure that the school rules and regulations are uniformly observed. The mean scores of teachers, and SIC members were (2.68), (2.59) respectively. Hence, their opinion implies, school leaders moderately ensure school rules and regulations. Interview conducted with respondents revealed that, school leaders occasionally enforce rules fairly and consistently and provide opportunities to develop and foster ethical reasoning, self-control and a generalized respect for others. In some schools, school guidelines were available to ensure rules and regulation of schools. School discipline policies are ultimately

the responsibility of the school leaders; however, all school staff plays a role in their effective development and implementation (Addington, 2009).

As presented in item 6 of Table 8, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate extent school leaders work collaboratively for implementing professional development of the staff. Accordingly, the mean score of teachers (2.50) shows teachers ratified moderate opinion regarding to the item. Whereas, the mean score of SIC members (2.48) shows low role employed by school leaders regarding to the specified item. The total mean score (2.49) show the extent to which school leaders work collaboratively for implementing professional development of the staff was low. To an open ended item, one of the respondents replied that most of CPD work in school was paper value and not functionally implemented properly.

As per the interview conducted with all of supervisors, they said that: “sufficient professional development that will enable school personnel to create and maintain positive and supportive learning settings was not provided properly and this issue was over sighted by school leaders”. During the observation time, teachers’ and school leaders’ CPD plans and portfolios were not observed sufficiently in secondary schools. As presented in ESDP V, one the main challenges concerning teachers’ and leaders’ development were CPD was not given enough attention by a number of school leaders and teachers (MoE, 2015). To this end, one can conclude that, the extent school leaders provide planned, ongoing and systematic professional development, technical assistance and resources for program implementation in collaboration with partners to increase health and safety for All students was low and needs serious attention.

In item 7 of Table 8, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent school leaders treat students with special needs. Accordingly, the mean scores of teachers (2.17) and SIC members (2.08) show low efforts were attempted by school leaders in treating students with special needs. All of the respondents from supervisors said that: “teachers were not encouraged to report students with special needs by school leaders for their treatment”. During document review, issues regarding to students with special needs were over sighted in school reports. As presented in ESDP V, no clear structure for coordination and administration of special needs education issues from federal to Woreda and school levels (MoE, 2015). So, one can conclude that, the extent school leaders treat students with special needs was low.

To sum up this section, the grand mean scores of teachers and SIC members in rating the extent school leaders exert their roles regarding to school facility, students empowerment and students support were (2.40), (2.69) and (2.43) respectively. This shows low roles were exerted by school leaders in creating conducive school. In support of this, school leaders didn't create a friendly environment in all roles to improve the instructional climate and students' sense of connectedness to the learning-teaching (Kedir, 2015).

4.4. Factors Affecting School Leaders' Role in Creating Conducive School Environment for Learning

School leaders become more responsible and know how to build conducive school environment. This is one of the most problematic and critical issues for some school leaders to make it happen. More than anything, a quality learning school environment matter a lot more than other school factors (Freiberg, 2001).

There are so many factors those made school leaders fail to discharge their role to create conducive learning school environment and up hold responsibility and perform school activities respectively to achieve the intended school goals. To identify these factors, the researcher had prepared 12 items for teachers and SICS members which were categorized into three tables: (9), (10) and (11) below. Both groups (teachers and SIC members) were asked to rate their level of agreement to what extent these factors really hinder school leaders' roles in creating conducive learning environment in their schools using a five point Likert scale ranging from very low (1) to very high (5).

Table 9. Leadership competency related factors affecting school leaders' role in creating conducive school environment for learning Teachers' and SIC members' views

No	Leadership competency related factors	Respondents	Mean	WM	SD
1	Low leadership competency, technical skill and experience of school leaders.	Teachers	4.14	4. 22	0.94
		SIC members	4.29		
2	Lack of appropriate training on SIP and CPD.	Teachers	3.63	3.74	1.33
		SIC members	3.85		
3	Low understanding and awareness about safe, healthy and protective school environment.	Teachers	3.30	3.19	1.36
		SIC members	3.07		
4	Problem of planning.	Teachers	3.49	3.67	1.01
		SIC members	3.85		
Grand Mean				3.70	1.16

Regarding to item 1 of Table 9, the mean scores of teachers (4.14) and SIC members (4.29) show that school leaders were highly affected by low leadership competency, technical skill and experience of school leaders. The average weighted mean (4.22) value of teachers and SIC members supplements the opinions of the two groups (teachers and SIC members).

All of the supervisors during conducting interview replied that: “school leaders are not competent enough to lead such a diversified school community, and leading school was problematic”. In most parts of the country, the problem is not a shortage of certified administrators, but a shortage of well qualified administrators who are willing to work in the places of highest demand, especially in underserved communities and schools where working conditions are most challenging (Sanders and Simpson, 2005). So, low leadership competency, technical skill and experience of school leaders highly affect school leaders' roles in creating conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools.

In item 2 of Table 9, the average mean score of teachers (3.63) and SIC members (3.85) show lack of appropriate training on SIP and CPD highly affected school leaders to create conducive learning environment. The average weighted mean (3.74) value of teachers and SIC members

supports their opinion. During conducting interview, all of supervisors said: “there were inadequate trainings for school leaders to develop their leadership competency; and no adequate manuals and materials related to school leadership available in most secondary schools”.

As indicated in item 3 of Table 9, the mean score of teachers (3.30) and SIC members (3.07) show that low understanding and awareness about safe, healthy and protective school environment moderately affect school leaders role for creating conducive learning environment. The average weighted mean (3.19) value of the two groups indicated that school leaders in sampled schools were moderately affected regarding to the item.

During document review, no in staff training manuals related to the safe, healthy and protective school environment was observed. The actions of students within classrooms and the creation of safe and productive learning environment are important for many schools and can be a challenging dimension of school leaders (Liu and Breit, 2013). Hence, low understanding and awareness about safe, healthy and protective school environment moderately affect school leaders’ role in creating conducive learning school environment.

As presented in item 4 of Table 9, the mean score of teachers (3.49) shows moderate and SIC members (3.85) show high to problem of planning. The average weighted mean (3.67) value of teachers and SIC members indicated that school leaders in sampled schools were highly affected by problem of planning. All of PTA heads and supervisors said: “preparation of school plans was not participatory”. During document review, no evidence showing school self-evaluation observed in school improvement plans of most secondary schools. To this end, problem of planning highly affect school leaders’ role in creating conducive learning environment negatively.

In general, Table 9 indicates that the grand mean score of respondents (teachers and SIC members) regarding to leadership competency related factors affecting school leaders in creating conducive learning environment was 3.70 with a standard deviation of 1.16.

This show, the problems in the table affect school leaders highly. But as seen from the table, low leadership competency, technical skills and experience of school leaders and lack of appropriate training on SIP and CPD seriously influenced school leaders with the magnitude of weighted mean value (4.22) and (3.74) respectively.

To improve the management of the education system so that decisions are made and implemented which improve institution performance and student achievement, capacity development for improved management was problematic (MoE, 2015). Hence, leadership competency was not achieved to the remarkable level and did not enhance school leaders in creating conducive learning environment in secondary schools.

Table 10. Management related factors affecting school leaders' role in creating conducive school environment for learning Teachers' and SIC members' views

No	Management related factors	Respondents	Mean	WM	SD
1	Limited school autonomy.	Teachers	2.60	2.46	1.21
		SIC members	2.32		
2	Lack of commitment and stand	Teachers	3.35	3.35	1.06
		SIC members	3.34		
3	Lack of communication and interaction with external organ such as religious organizations, NGOs and cluster group trainers	Teachers	3.58	3.59	1.17
		SIC members	3.59		
4	Failure to integrate school improvement plan implementation activities.	Teachers	3.56	3.63	1.14
		SIC members	3.71		
Grand Mean				3.26	1.14

As depicted in item 1 of Table 10, the mean score of teachers (2.60) shows limited school autonomy affects school leaders' efforts in moderate. Whereas the mean score of SIC members (2.32) shows low to the specified item. The average weighted mean (2.46) value of teachers and SIC members indicated that school leaders were not affected by limited school autonomy significantly. All of the respondents during interview replied that: "unnecessary external organs intervention in school functions sometimes affects school leaders' role in creating learning school environment".

According to item 2 of Table 10, the mean score of teachers (3.35) and SIC members (3.34) shows, lack of commitment and stand moderately affect school leaders role for creating conducive learning environment. The average weighted mean (3.35) value of teachers and SIC members indicated that school leaders in sampled schools were moderately affected by lack of commitment and stand. Effective school leaders recognize the potential they have to create a school environment where teachers thrive and students achieve their greatest potential in a safe and nurturing school setting (Johnston, 2001).

As depicted in item 3 of Table 10, the mean score of teachers (3.58) and SIC members (3.59) show, lack of communication and interaction with external organ such as religious organizations, NGOs and cluster group trainers highly affects school leaders to create conducive school environment for learning. In support of this, the average weighted mean (3.59) value of teachers and SIC members indicated that school leaders were highly affected by the specified factor. During conducting interview, all of supervisors seriously replied that: “school leaders’ roles for effective schooling were affected by low communications of school leaders with donors like NGOs and other voluntary organs”. To conclude, lack of communication and interaction with external organs highly affects school leaders to create conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools.

In item 4 of Table 10, the average mean scores of teachers (3.56), SIC members (3.71) and the weighted mean (3.63) indicated that school leaders were highly affected by their failure to integrate school improvement implementation activities. During document review, SIC members’ minutes were not observed adequately in most secondary schools. So, failure to integrate school improvement implementation activities highly affects school leaders’ roles to create conducive learning environment in secondary schools.

In general, Table 10 indicates that the grand mean score of respondents’ (teachers and SIC members) response regarding to management related factors affecting school leaders in creating conducive learning environment was 3.26 with a standard deviation of 1.14. This shows that the problems in the table affect school leaders moderately. But as seen from the table, failure to integrate school improvement implementation activities seriously influenced school leaders’ role with the magnitude of weighted mean value 3.63.

One of the main challenges expected during ESDP IV was further improvement of the effectiveness of the educational administration at all levels, through capacity development and the creation of motivational work environments (MoE, 2010). Hence, effective educational management was not achieved to the remarkable level and this negatively affects school leaders' roles in creating conducive learning environment in secondary schools.

Table 11. Support related factors affecting school leaders' Roles in creating conducive school environment for learning Teachers' and SIC members' views

No	Support related factors	Respondents	Mean	WM	SD
1	Shortage of resources and delay in the release of budget.	Teachers	3.90	3.98	0.98
		SIC members	4.05		
2	Absence of adequate school partners involvement (parents, NGOs and community) to support school.	Teachers	3.46	3.43	1.24
		SIC members	3.40		
3	Weak in- built supervision system for educational delivery support.	Teachers	3.49	3.61	1.12
		SIC members	3.73		
4	Low communication of school leaders with families of students	Teachers	3.74	3.86	1.29
		SIC members	3.97		
Grand Mean				3.72	1.16

As indicated in item 1 of Table 11, teachers and SIC members were asked to rate the extent to which shortage of resources and delay in the release of budget affects school leaders in creating conducive learning environment. The mean score of teachers (3.90) and SIC members (4.05) shows their opinion hold high to the specified item. The average weighted mean value (3.98) of the two groups indicated that, school leaders were highly influenced due to shortage of resources and delay in the release of budget.

All of supervisors during interview replied that: “there was no adequate school budget for the designed expenditures to aid nurturing learning environment in secondary school”. As presented

in ESDP V, for any organization to be effective, it is not sufficient that it has an appropriate structure and staff with the right profile.

It also needs a minimum level of material and financial resources, which also act as sources of motivation to staff through providing motivating working conditions (MoE, 2015).

Hence, lack of resources and delay in the release of budget highly influenced school leader's efforts in creating conducive learning environment in secondary schools.

Regarding to item 2 of Table 11, the mean score of teachers (3.46) and SIC members (3.40) show absence of adequate school partners involvement (parents, NGOs and community) to support school affects school leaders moderately. The average weighted mean of teachers and SIC members were 3.43 shows school leaders are moderately affected by the factor identified earlier.

All of PTA heads during conducting interview replied that: "even though school leaders require corporation of partners, they were not voluntary to support secondary schools and it was changing". Document review revealed that no adequate evidences regarding to community involvement guidelines and minutes were available in secondary schools. Many schools have limited access to community supports making over reliance on community partners as primary providers of mental health services potential all problematic (Cowan and Vaillancourt, 2013). So, absence of adequate school partners' involvement affects school leaders moderately in creating conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools.

In item 3 of Table 11, the mean score of teachers (3.49) shows weak in- built supervision system for educational delivery support affected school leaders' roles moderately. Whereas the mean score of SIC members (3.73) shows high to the specified item. The average weighted mean (3.61) value of teachers and SIC members indicated that school leaders were highly affected by weak in- built supervision system for educational delivery support.

Majority of supervisors during interview replied that: "traditional supervision (inspection) was dominant and no appropriate supervision functions were delivered for education delivery supports to enhance students' learning which in turn affects school leaders' effectiveness negatively in creating conducive school environment".

School leaders are employed from teaching staffs without having administration training. Hence, these factors negatively influenced them so as to enhance quality of learners (UNICEF, 2010).

In item 4 of Table 11, the mean score of teachers (3.74), SIC members (3.97) and the weighted mean (3.86) show low communication of school leaders with families of students affect school leader's roles highly to create conducive learning school environment. All of the respondents during interview replied that: "barrier to effective communication of school leaders with families of students brought students not to be disciplined and follow school rules". During document analysis, no school leader- family minutes were available in most secondary schools.

In general, Table 11 indicates that the grand mean score of respondents' (teachers and SIC members) response regarding to support related factors affecting school leaders in creating conducive learning environment was 3.72 with a standard deviation of 1.16. This shows that the problems in the table affect school leaders highly. But as seen from the table, shortage of resources and delay in the release of budget and low communication of school leaders with families of students seriously influenced school leaders with the magnitude of weighted mean value (3.98) and (3.86) respectively.

According to an interview conducted with supervisors and PTA heads, they replied that: "educational delivery supports were not systematic and no adequate block grant budget was Allocated as per the number of students in secondary schools and schools by themselves were not resourceful". One of the main challenges expected during ESDP IV was further improvement of the effectiveness of the educational administration at all levels, through capacity development and the creation of motivational work environments (MoE, 2010). Hence, effective educational management was not achieved to the remarkable level and this negatively affects school leaders' role in creating conducive learning environment in secondary schools.

A strong support system is required for making the school environment conducive. Developing partnerships beyond the school to encourage parental support for learning and new learning opportunities are among the challenges facing school leaders for effective school improvement (Christopher and Pamel, 2013). Low support from top level officials and lack of involvement of the stakeholders are challenges facing school leaders (MoE, 2007b).

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter deals with summary, conclusions and recommendations. In this section, first a summary of the study and the major findings are made. Second, conclusions of the fundamental findings are drawn. Lastly, some possible recommendations are made on the basis of the findings of the study.

5.1. Summary

The purpose of this study was to analyze school leaders' roles in creating conducive learning school environment in North Shoa Zone. The researcher attempted to answer the basic questions:

- To what extent secondary school environment is conducive for learning in North Shoa Zone;
- To what extent do school leaders exert efforts to create their conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone;
- What are factors affecting school leaders' roles in creating conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools of North Shoa Zone and;

The study was conducted at zonal level, which includes four Woreda and one City administration. Two secondary schools were selected from each Woreda and the City administration. The number of sample respondents were 90 teachers, 62 SIC members, 10 PTA heads and 5 supervisors in government secondary schools of the zone. The data were collected from both primary and secondary sources. The primary sources of data were opinions that were collected from teachers and SIC members using close ended and open ended questionnaires and those collected through interview from general secondary school supervisors and PTA heads, and observations. Secondary data were from document analysis of secondary schools.

To analyze data and arrive at a conclusion, appropriate statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, mean score, and weighted mean were employed.

Based on the analysis made, the following major findings were identified.

This study indicates that the degree of conduciveness of secondary schools environment for learning was moderate regarding to school facilities (grand mean = 2.65) and students empowerment (grand mean = 2.74). Regarding to students support (grand mean = 2.38), secondary schools environment were underway. Regarding to school facilities, schools lacked adequate facilities. Laboratories, genders sensitive latrine with water facility and access and use of information and communication technology were problematic in secondary schools.

In terms of student empowerment, secondary schools' environments were moderately conducive for learning. Provision of opportunity for gender equality of students to participate in school leadership (total mean score 2.19) was under way and questionable. Additionally, students' behavioral change has not reached to the appropriate level. Moreover, reproductive healthy related factors were not integrated in school program.

Supports provided for students in order to minimize education wastage with the total mean score 2.28 low. Implementation of rule and procedures (total mean score = 2.41) was problematic. Additionally, safety and security of school environments were below the standard. Moreover, special need education was not integrated in CPD program and no supports were given for students with special needs and special need education were over sighted in secondary schools.

The extent school leaders were exerting efforts to create conducive school environment for learning regarding to school facility (grand mean score = 2.40), and students support (grand mean score = 2.43) in secondary schools was low. Regarding to empowering students, the grand mean score 2.69 shows, moderate role were exerted by school leaders. The totals mean score of teachers and SIC members (2.14) shows, low role were exerted by school leaders in facilitating school facilities to enable learning. Additionally, school leaders failed to prepare school facility plan and involve partners in order to fulfill school facilities for learning in secondary schools.

Regarding to empowering students, school leaders played their role moderately in order to create learning school environments. However, the total mean score of teachers and SIC members (2.31) shows, the extent they endeavor their role to participate students fairly in school leadership activities was low. Moreover, the extent school leaders Allow students to know a school guideline that governs students conduct was low.

The extent school leaders adopt a vision and action plan for creating and sustaining safe and healthy environments, (total mean score = 2.35), was low. Budget allocation and effective communication were observed as a drawback of school leaders for safety and healthy school environment. More over low role were attempted by school leaders regarding students with special needs to suit their learning in secondary schools.

A number of hindering factors affected school leaders role in creating conducive learning environment can be listed. So, from the expected factors provided for respondents, low leadership competency, technical skill and experience of school leaders (WM = 4. 22) ; shortage of resources and delay in the release of budget (WM = 3.98), low communication of school leaders with families of students (WM = 3.86); lack of appropriate training on SIP and CPD (WM= 3.74), and failure to integrate school improvement implementation activities(WM = 3.63) were among the factors highly affecting school leaders in creating conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools of North shoa Zone.

The extent to which access and use of information and commutation technology was facilitated for teaching purposes, as interview conducted with PTA heads and supervisors revealed that: In some secondary schools “access and use of information and communication technology were not facilitated adequately, for example Computers, plasma and internet services, that aid learning and teaching material. The extent school leaders adopt a vision and action plan for creating and sustaining safe and healthy environments, all supervisors seriously replied that: “no attention was given for special need students” in all secondary schools.

According to interview conducted with PTA, they said that: “school leaders fail to generate budget so that no enough budget was allocated for students’ healthy and safety”.

As per the interview conducted with all of supervisors, they said that: “sufficient professional development that will enable school personnel to create and maintain positive and supportive learning settings was not provided properly and this issue was over sighted by school leaders”.

Majority of the supervisors during conducting interview replied that: “school leaders are not competent enough to lead such a diversified school community, and leading school was problematic”.

Majority of the respondents during interview replied that: “barrier to effective communication of school leaders with families of students brought students not to be disciplined and follow school rules”.

Majority of supervisors during interview replied that: “there was no adequate school budget for the designed expenditures to aid nurturing learning environment in secondary school”

According to an interview conducted with supervisors and PTA heads, they replied that: “educational delivery supports were not systematic and no adequate block grant budget was Allocated as per the number of students in secondary schools and schools by themselves were not resourceful”.

5.2. Conclusions

Regarding to educational back ground, all teachers were first degree holder and above. Therefore, teachers in secondary schools were qualified to the standard and above. Except PTA heads, most of the SIC members were first degree holders. From the implication of the study, a few principal and vice principal in SIC members were master degree holders. But according MoE policy, they should be qualified with master degree to be competent leader in secondary schools. Therefore, this negatively affects school leaders’ effectiveness and role to create conducive school environment for learning in secondary schools.

According to this study, secondary school environment was moderately conducive for learning regarding to school facilities and students empowerment. However, the extent to which students were supported in schools was low in secondary schools. But this is not a remarkable level for students to learn effectively because there were inadequate facilities like standard laboratories and libraries, lack of access and use of technology like internet and adequate computers. This, therefore, implies students did not get adequate facilities to learn in secondary schools. Regarding to empowerment of students, secondary schools were moderately conducive for learning. But it is under way and not to the remarkable level. In this case, gender equality of students to participate in school leadership was low. Provisions of supports for students were underway. To bring changes in schools, enabling school leaders was necessary. However, they exerted low role in creating conducive school environment. This implies school leaders didn’t apply their leadership role effectively in secondary school in order to enhance learning environment. To make learning effective school leaders should pay attention for facilities to enhance learning. However, the degree they strive their role in facilitating school facilities to ensure conducive school environment was poor.

Even though school leaders empower students, remarkable activities were not observed in maintaining a welcoming school atmosphere that recognizes the relevant transitions and mobility of students and families that occur throughout the school year. Supports provided for students for learning were poor in secondary school environments. Schools should give special attention in identification of the needs of their students who deserve special support. But, students with special needs were ignored which needs nearby support. School leaders failed to support students with special needs.

From the research findings, one can list a number of factors affecting school leaders in order to create conducive learning school environment. However, leadership competence and support related factors highly influenced school leaders in creating conducive learning school environment in secondary schools. Hence, to sum up, low role were employed by school leaders in order to create conducive and nurturing learning school environment that address the physical and mental health needs of all students and staff.

5.3. Recommendations

Based on the finding of the study and conclusion drawn, the following recommendations were forwarded.

- ❖ The Zonal Education Office, Woreda Education office and other stakeholders should work together to create conducive working environment in secondary school with effective rules and regulation for the proper function of school leaders and assigning competent leader.
- ❖ Regarding student support, teachers, school leaders and other stakeholders should prepare student support program and implement the program in the form of tutorial activities.
- ❖ Regarding to school facilities: laboratory, plasma and teaching material should be adequately availed by REB and Zonal education office.
- ❖ The secondary schools in collaboration with WEO are advised to integrate special education and CPD to school improvement activities.

- ❖ The Zonal Education Office, Woreda Education office, schools and other stakeholders should provide students with a safe environment in which to share their questions or concerns on matters concerning sexuality, violence, gender dynamics, and abuse and family issues. The school should assess the need of students and staff for the betterment of nurturing learning school environment.
- ❖ MoE in collaboration with regional education bureau and zonal education office should bring competent and trained personals to the leadership position because the study showed that low leadership competency of school leaders highly affects for creating conducive learning school environment.
- ❖ Stakeholders, MoE, Regional Educational Bureau (REB) have to support school leaders to apply their understanding in creating conducive learning environment for increasing students' performance. School leaders have to use their understanding of SIP to enhance conducive school environment for learning. Additionally, MoE and REB should provide training for school leaders in professional development activities that address health and safety concerns of all school community members. Furthermore, REB should organize continuous training program (policy) to update the awareness of school leaders about school improvement programs in general and how to create conducive school environments in particular. School leaders should notify through staff meeting to teachers, to students, to parent and community representative quarterly. Woreda Education Bureau (WEB) and school should provide continuous and short-term training, technical support, and reward best performing schools, school leaders, teachers, students and school community representatives.
- ❖ School principals should mobilize community and involve partners (parents, NGOs and community) to generate budget in order to facilitate educational materials that aid learning. Moreover, REB and Woreda administrative should allocate budget to furnish schools with classrooms, laboratories, and other materials that aid learning. Special attention should be given for cross-cutting issues like gender, special needs and inclusive education and HIV/AIDS by All stake holders and better if prioritized in education policy

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7. APPENDICES

Appendix A-1

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY
POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTORATE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Questionnaire to be filled by Teachers and SIC members

Dear, Teachers and SIC members:

I am a graduate student at the University of Addis Ababa, working on a Master of Arts in School Leadership. Currently I am conducting a study on a research entitled “**School Leaders’ Efforts in creating conducive School Environment for learning in Secondary Schools of North Shoa Zone, Oromia Regional State**” for which I warmly invite you to complete this survey questionnaire. Your participation in this study will not affect your present status in anyway. You will remain anonymous and your answer will be kept strictly confidential and the data is used only for the research purpose. The success of this study directly depends upon your honest and genuine response to each question. Filling the questionnaire will take approximately **30** minutes.

Directions:

- Please read the instructions and each item carefully before you give response.
- Write your brief response in the blank spaces provided for open-ended items.
- Give only a single answer to each close-ended item.
- Writing your name in any part of this questionnaire is not required.
- Please try to make your answer **legible** and **brief**.
- Return the questionnaire as soon as possible after completion.

Note: **School leaders** refer to secondary school supervisors, principals, Vice-principals, Parent- Teacher Association (PTA) heads, unit leaders, department heads and student councils.

Part 1: Background Information

This part of the questionnaire contains personal information; thus, please fill the necessary answers for each item properly by circling the alternatives under each item.

1.1. Name of your Secondary School :

1.2. Sex: A. Male B. Female

1.3. Age in Years

A. 20-29 B. 29-40 C. 40-50 D. 50 and a above

1.4. Educational Qualification

A. Certificate B. Diploma C. 1st Degree D. Master's Degree

E. Any other specify _____

1.5. Work Experience in year

A. 1-5 B. 5-12 C. 12-17 D. 18 and above

1.6. Work experience in this school in years

A. 1-5 B. 5-11 C. 11 and above

1.7. Your current position

A. Teaching staff B. Principal C. Vice principal D. Student council

E. Supervisor F. Any other specify _____

1.8. Have you trained in one or more of the followings?

A. Leadership B. School Improvement Program C. Teachers' professional development

D. Non-Pedagogical (Non-Teaching) Training

E. Any other specify _____

Part 2: Questionnaire related to extent to which school environment is conducive for learning.

Please read each item carefully and hold your position by putting a check mark "√" in to the response that best reflects your opinion about extent to which your school environment is conducive for learning based on the following statements using a scale of 1-5. The number indicates: 1=Strongly Disagree (SDA), 2=Disagree (DA), 3= Un Decided (UD), 4= Agree (A), and 5= Strongly Agree (SA).

All your answer will be respected.

Table 12.Items regarding to empowerment of Students

No	Items regarding to School Facility	Scale				
		1 SD	2 DA	3 UD	4 A	5 SA
2.1	My school has secured fence and attractive premises that enabled students to attend class regularly.					
2.2	Favorable and inspiring class room contexts have enhanced students' learning motivation.					
2.3	My school has standard teaching-learning aides and materials which contribute to successful learning – teaching process (laboratory, library, pedagogical center, teachers' resting room, sport field etc.).					
2.4	School community benefited from adequate access to standard toilets particularly designated for ladies and gentles together with water facilities, which satisfied users; and behavioral changes have been observed.					
2.5	My school has facilitated access and use of information and commutation technology for teaching purposes (plasma, computer, internet access, etc)					
2.6	There is culture of student participation in decision making process that enhanced students' willingness to take responsibility and self-disciplined culture					
2.7	My school provides opportunity for gender equality of students to participate in school leadership(e.g., clubs)					
2.8	Issues related to family life education have been integrated in my school.					
2.9	Students demonstrated acceptable behavioral change.					
2.10	Students demonstrate acceptable sense of responsibility in the teaching-learning process.					
2.11	All students have equal opportunities to realize their potential and my school has paid special attention particularly for female students					
2.12	My school provides all rounded support to students, which helped to minimize wastage of educational resources..					
2.13	My school's rules and procedures properly implemented to avoid unacceptable behavior such as hostility, stigma and discrimination, violence, threat, brawling and any other misconduct.					
2.14	Special needs education has been integrated in continuous professional development (CPD) program					
2.15	The school has implemented special needs education program supported by the provision of trained teachers required for leadership of the program where adequate materials and facilities are fulfilled.					

2.16. Please, write your comment the extent to which your school environment is conducive for learning regarding school facility, student's empowerment and student support briefly here under.

2.16.1. School Facility

2.16.2. Students Empowerment

2.16.3. Students support

Part 3: Questionnaire related to the extent to which school leaders are exerting their effort in creating conducive learning school environment

A. Items regarding to school facilities

Please read each item carefully and rate from very high to very low and put a check mark “√” in to the response that best reflect school leaders’ efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning regarding to school facilities in your school using a scale of 1-5. The number indicates: 1=Very Low (VL), 2= Low (L), 3= Moderate (M), 4 = High (H), 5= Very High (VH). All your answer will be respected.

Table 13.Items regarding to school facilities

No	The extent to which school leaders:	Scale				
		1 VL	2 L	3 M	4 H	5 VH
3.1	Formulate and communicate a common vision in school to make school environment attractive premises.					
3.2	Prepare school facility plan					
3.3	Allocate budget for school facilities those aid learning.					
3.4	Endeavor their effort in creating school environment whereby all the necessary facilities are provided for teachers and students to enable learning.					
3.5	Involve partners (Parents, NGOs, etc.) to fulfill school facilities					
3.6	Maintain and manage school facilities properly					

3.7. What can you say about efforts school leaders are exerting in creating conducive school environment **regarding to school facilities** in your school? Write down briefly.

B. Items regarding to empowerment of Student

Please read each item carefully and rate from very high to very low and put a check mark “√” in to the response that best reflect school leaders’ effort in creating conducive school environment

	The extent to which school leaders:	Scale				
		1 VL	2 L	3 M	4 H	5 VH
3.8	Allow students to know school guidelines that govern students conduct.					
3.9	Involve students in decision making process to make it democratic and participatory.					
3.10	Empower students to maintain discipline in school.					
3.11	Endeavor their efforts to participate students fairly in school leadership activities.					
3.12	Ensure students’ sense of responsibility so that they feel free to express their opinions in school fairly.					
3.13	Initiate students for their successful learning.					

for learning **regarding to empowerment of Students** in your school using a scale of 1-5.

C. Items regarding to Student support

Please read each item carefully and rate from very high to very low and put a check mark “√” in to the response that best reflect school leaders’ effort in creating conducive school environment for learning **regarding to Student support in** your school using a scale of 1-5. The number indicates: 1=Very Low (VL), 2= Low (L), 3= Moderate (M), 4 = High (H), 5= Very High (VH).

All your answer will be respected.

Table 14. Items regarding to Student support

	The extent to which school leaders:	Scale				
		1 VL	2 L	3 M	4 H	5 VH
3.15	Monitor and ensure provision of equal opportunities for students to realize their potential.					
3.16	Broadly involve and collaborate with families to address environment that supports student achievement and well-being.					
3.17	Adopt a vision and action plan for building and sustaining safe, respectful and healthy environment.					
3.18	Allocate and utilize budget appropriately for designed expenditure in students' healthy and safety.					
3.19	Ensure that the school rules and regulations are uniformly observed.					
3.20	Work collaboratively for implementing professional development of the staff.					
3.21	Treat students with special needs					

3.22. What can you say about efforts school leaders are exerting in creating conducive school environment **regarding to Student support** (students' safety, security, healthy and protective) in your school? Write down briefly.

Part 4: Questionnaire related to factors affecting school leaders' efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning.

Please read each item carefully and hold your position by putting a check mark “√” in to the response that best reflects your opinion **about factors affecting school leaders’ efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning in your school** based on the following statements using a scale of 1-5. The number indicates: 1=Very Low (VL), 2= Low (L), 3= Moderate (M), 4 = High (H), 5= Very High (VH).

All your answer will be respected.

Table 15. Factors affecting school leaders’ efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning.

No	Expected factors	Scale				
		1 VL	2 L	3 M	4 H	5 VH
	Leadership competency related factors					
4.1	Low leadership competency, technical skill and experience of school leaders.					
4.2	Lack of appropriate training on school improvement program and continuous professional development					
4.3	Low understanding and awareness about safe, healthy and protective school environment.					
4.4	Problem of planning.					
	Management related factors					
4.5	Limited school autonomy.					
4.6	Lack of commitment and stand.					
4.7	Lack of communication and interaction with external organ such as religious organizations, NGOs and cluster group trainers.					
4.8	Failure to integrate school improvement implementation activities.					
	Support related factors					
4.9	Shortage of resources and delay in the release of budget					
4.10	Absence of adequate school partners involvement (parents, NGOs and community) to support school					
4.11	Weak in- built supervision system for educational delivery support.					
4.12	Low communication of school leaders with families of students.					

4.13. If there are any other factors that affect school leaders' efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning in your school, please write them briefly.

4.14. What should be the possible measures to enhance school leaders' efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning in your school? Please write down briefly.

Appendices A-2

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTORATE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Semi- structured interview guideline for supervisors and PTA heads.

The main objectives of this interview guideline are to collect extensive information about **“School Leaders’ Efforts in creating conducive School Environment for learning.** Thus, your genuine participation to give necessary data has great importance for effectiveness of the research.

Interview Questions

1. Is your school environment conducive for learning? What can you say regarding school facilities, student empowerment and student support in your school?
2. How do you explain efforts of school leaders are exerting in creating your school environment conducive for learning regarding facilitating school facilities, empowering students (in their sense of responsibilities, behavioral change, self-confidence and enjoy freedom) and student support (students’ safety, healthy and protection) in your school?
3. How do you encourage and support school leaders to strive their effort in creating their school environment conducive for learning?
4. What factors do you think that are affecting school leaders in creating conducive school environment for learning in your school?
5. What possible measures do you think that can maximize school leaders’ efforts in creating conducive school environment for learning in your school?

Appendices A-3
ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY
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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

School Document Review Checklist

Name of the school _____

Date _____

Table 16.School Document Review Checklist

No	Documents	Remark
1	school improvement plan	
2	School budget plan	
3	School facility plan	
4	co-curricular activities	
5	school guide lines	
6	Materials related to school leaders	
7	school minutes	
8	School attendances	
9	school reports and records	
10	Portfolios	
11	In staff training manuals	

Appendices A-4
ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY
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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT
School observation Checklist

Name of the school _____

Date of observation _____

Time: From _____ 2_ to _____

Table 17. School observation Checklist

No	Student Facilities	Remark
1	Attractiveness of the school compound.	
2	Pedagogical center with teaching aids.	
3	Laboratory with chemicals, apparatus and lab-technician	
4	Library with updated reference books.	
5	Clean toilet rooms for male and female students and teachers with water facilities respectively.	
6	Standard class rooms with student desk and facilitated tutorial classes.	
7	ICT room with computer and internet access, and plasma	
8	Sport fields, recreation area and cafeteria.	
	Student empowerment	
9	Promotion of the school the participation of students in school decision making. E.g., school council, student parliament and class meetings.	
10	Involvement of students in school leadership (e.g. in clubs) to develop a sense of responsibility.	
11	Promotion of gender equality and self-discipline of students and its monitoring.	
12	Student's behavior and self-confidence.	
	Students support	
13	Activities in school focus on students' needs and their performance improvement	
14	Encouraging female students and special attention given for them in schools.	
15	Students opinions surveys being classrooms are positive and safe learning environment where students are motivated to learn	
16	School documentation about:	
	Expectation of respect for others and property.	
	An ethos in which violence, discrimination, harassment or bullying is not tolerated, Procedures for peaceful resolution of conflicts.	
	Expectation of safe behavior and compliance with school rules.	
	Special need education issue and supports for special need students, teachers' and school leaders' portfolios.	

Appendices B

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Reliability coefficient for pilot test

Table 18.Reliability coefficient for pilot test

No	Items	N	α (Cronbach alpha)
1	The current status of conducive learning school environment.	11	0.88
2	Extent school leaders exert their effort in creating conducive learning school environment.	10	0.83
3	Factors affecting school leaders' effort in creating conducive learning school environment.	10	0.91
	Total	31	0.87

n =number of items