

Key Findings of Review

The Review of Lamplimat Pattana School (LPMP) was conducted for the School Board by an international team of consultants under the auspices of the Faculty of Education, University of Tasmania, Australia between July and October 2006. As a comparison, the Review Team analyzed two local government schools in Buriram Province during this same period. The Review Team came up with a very positive conclusion, of which four key findings are summarized below.

- LPMP is a world-class school, comparable in quality of education to privately-run international schools and not to local government-run schools.
- Students were found to be creative, happy, confident and excited to learn – clearly benefiting from both the active participation and genuine interest in the welfare of the children by both teachers and the parents alike.
- The operating costs of LPMP per student per year were found to be slightly higher than those of the local government-run schools, but were still only a fraction of the cost (4-40%) of comparable bilingual and international schools.
- The curriculum and methodologies of LPMP, which not only meet but exceed the criteria for a good education set forth in the Education Act of 1999, should serve as a model for the government-run educational system throughout the Kingdom of Thailand.

Select Quotes from Review

Characteristics and Approaches of School

- "Key success factors include the strong, visionary leadership of the Headmaster, engagement of the parents, strategic recruitment and the professional learning program for all staff, small classes, the high time - commitment and professionalism of the young, energetic and dedicated teachers, a growing outreach program (1,000 visitors in 2005-6) and excellent school facilities - the buildings and green, clean, environment." (4)
- "Parents are expected to commit to being a part of their children's learning process from the beginning stage of enrolment at school to the leaving stage." (28)
- "Children were observed to be happy, confident, thinking, creative, questioning, emotionally and socially competent and enjoying learning." (4)
- "The [Population and Community Development Association] provides vision, leadership, an extensive network and political weight, programs to develop health, economy and democracy." (27)

Achievement of School

- "There is no doubt that this is a world-class school." (43)
- "LPMP is an excellent school, which is achieving and exceeding its stated objectives. It compares favourably with international schools and benchmarks of international best practice drawn from the effective school literature." (5)
- "The LPMP curriculum is able to satisfy requirements of the national curriculum in the areas that are tested against the national benchmarks in literacy and numeracy and yet develop its own strong direction to support the goals of developing the students' thinking skills and becoming self managed learners." (19)
- "[T]he standard of education provided in LPMP on a range of measures is far superior to that in local government schools and is not dissimilar to that provided in typical international schools which are far more expensive." (23)
- "There is potential ... for LPMP to provide a model which could impact positively on the development of educational policy and practice more broadly in Thailand." (5)
- "[A] highly successful model of rural schooling which can now be leveraged to impact much more broadly on the reform of basic education throughout Thailand." (27)