

## **ABSTRACT**

**DISSERTATION/THESIS/RESEARCH PAPER/CREATIVE PROJECT:** An Examination of Expected Versus Actual Tasks of Public School Secondary Assistant Principals Throughout Indiana

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It is generally recognized that the assistant principal's position is a launching point for a career in school administration. The scarcity of research and literature pertaining to the role of the assistant principal led the researcher to compare the actual tasks being performed by public school assistant principals to their ideal job expectations.

Assistant principals throughout Indiana participated in the study. The sample consisted of 283 assistant principals, who completed a 59-item survey developed by Kriekard (1985). From the sample, 152 responded via email (53.7%), while another 131 (46.2%) responded by mail. The overall response rate was 54%.

The study sought to distinguish what job responsibilities were expected and performed by secondary assistant principals based on the six task areas in the survey. These included: Management of Schools, Leadership in Staff Personnel, Community Relations, Instructional Leader, Student Activities, and Pupil Personnel (Kriekard, 1985).

Using SPSS as the statistical program, the results of this study indicated that assistant principals today are still performing many of the same duties that assistant

principals performed in the 1960s. Significant results were found within the tasks areas of: Management of Schools (.000), Leadership in Staff Personnel (.000), Instructional Leader (.000) and Student Activities (.000). This suggests a significant decrease from actual job responsibilities as compared to the expected job responsibilities. Significant differences were also found within the independent variables of age, school setting, and career aspirations using T-test and ANOVA procedures. These findings were discussed and future research was suggested.