

# Students' Enrolment Based on Zoning System and Its Impact to the Academic Performance

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**Abstract**—Students' enrolment based on zoning system policy in Indonesia draws a full attention to all social levels and it extremely becomes a serious issue to be taken into account. This policy initially was decreed by the minister of education and culture in 2017 to bring the equality in education for K-12 students. However, in the implementation process, it brings pros and cons. This study examines the polemic occurred in public junior high School 1 of Ciampea Bogor, Indonesia during the course of the enactment of policy. This study gathered information from 20 respondents through an in-depth interview, observation, and documentation study. The research finding is students enrolment based on zoning system still cannot be implemented comprehensively especially in the area of Ciampea. Moreover, it shows that during the 3-year program run, the academic performance of the students shows a decreasing trend as it can be shown by the national examination score from the database of the ministry of education. Therefore, it needs a concerted effort from government and educational stakeholders to evaluate this program.

**Keywords**—zoning system; academic performance; students' enrolment

## I. INTRODUCTION

Students enrolment based on zoning system policy in Indonesia draws a full attention to all social levels and it extremely becomes a serious issue to be taken into account. This policy initially was decreed by the minister of education and culture in 2017 for the purpose of bringing the equality in education for K-12 students. However, in the implementation process, it brings pros and cons. Dunn stated that the implementation of the school's zoning policy has some positive impacts while at the same time it also raises debates [1]. From the positive side, the use of zoning system in enrolment process will simultaneously eliminate the freedom of choice in education since students are no longer to have a burden traveling to the school which might be far away from their home [2]. Distance to school is very sensitive to students since it can increase attendance and performance [3]. In addition, the use of zoning system in students' enrolment is more efficient to get rid of the segregation Glenn as the case of Oliver Brown Vs. School Board Topeka in Kansas in 1954 [4]. Cremin revealed before the case of Oliver Brown Vs Board of Topeka,

the segregation in educational filed in the US has a major issue to address [5]. However, after the case appeared to the public and the court granted a Brown case to introduce a term "separate but equal", no more segregation happened in the US educational system [6].

In connection with the issue, the use of zoning system in students' enrolment is supposed to bring an ample opportunity for the students to have a better quality in education. However, in Indonesia the implementation of zoning system policy raises a serious problem. One of the predominant issues is caused by the readiness of the school facilities which may affect the students' academic performance. The area of Ciampea-Bogor is one of the examples how the policy does not run optimally. Over the 3-year program implemented this area literally needs a serious effort to encounter the issue of imbalance proportion between the number of applicants and the number of classrooms available. As the data tells by the Indonesian ministry of education and culture, this area only has one public junior high school out of 50 elementary schools. Therefore, it can be described that when these 50 elementary schools produce alumni and each of them needs to continue to the junior public school, the "bottle-neck" situation absolutely cannot be avoided. The school becomes more crowded when it comes to the new academic year.

Students who live closest to the school might take for granted from this opportunity since the chance of getting accepted is bigger than those who are located far from the school. As it has been stipulated by the minister of education and culture regulation number 51 of 2018 that there are three new students' admission pathways, namely zoning system pathway, achievement pathway, and the transfer of parents/guardians pathways where the capacity for each pathway is 90%, 5%, 5% [7]. Due to this rule, it affects the high-achieving students who are far from the school since they do not have a big chance to enter the public junior school. Consequently, they have to continue their study in private school which may cost a lot of money.

A major effect resulted in from this phenomenon is the students' academic performances (measured by the average national examination score) have shown a gradual decrease as depicted from the chart below.

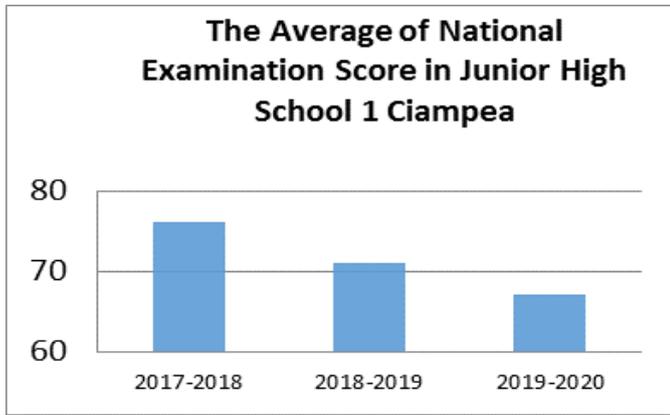


Fig. 1. The average of national examination score in Junior High School 1 Ciampea.

From the aforementioned problem, the following question have been sought to achieve the purpose of this study is to what extent the readiness of facilities affect students' academic performance?

## II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

### A. Students Enrolment

In terms of the enrolment process, Imron revealed that there are two types of student enrolment systems. First is a promotion system and the second is a selection system. The promotion system is the acceptance of students without using selection. Those who register as students in a school are all accepted for granted. Therefore, those who register to be students, no one are rejected. The promotion system generally applies to schools that have a lack of applicants [8].

Meanwhile, the selection system for new students can be classified into three types which are the national final examination scores, skill and ability test, and the entrance tests. Moreover, in order to find out the best criteria for new student admissions, Pearce stated that there are three types of standards: 1. predetermined standards from the schools; 2. Standard-based on the overall students' achievement. The applicants whose grades are above the average score are classified as accepted students, while those under the standard score are considered not to be accepted; 3. Criteria based on the capacity of the school. In this case, schools will determine the number of rooms or buildings available, and then it will be adjusted to a number of applicants [9]. After all, students will be ranked ranging from the highest achievers to the lowest.

### B. Zoning System

Zoning refers to the legal classification of land that indicates what activities may occur there. Historically, there are three standard zoning classifications: residential, commercial, and industrial [10]. Residential zones are areas where people dwell. Commercial zones are areas where people conduct business, such as retail or professional services. Industrial zones are areas where people undertake activities that are

demanding on the physical environment, such as manufacturing. Other zoning classifications typically include agriculture, open space, or public facilities. There are also variations within zoning classifications including school [11].

### C. Academic Performance

Satori revealed that there are three main dimensions for improving academic performance; the interaction or the service quality, the quality of the physical environment, the quality of results [12]. In terms of improving academic performance, Meter and Horn suggested that education managers should refer to the basic principle of quality improvement which is a continuous improvement. They must establish a condition where the teachers, administrators, and school principals in running their duties should be from knowledge-based and supported by the correct theories and concepts [13]. In education field, especially schooling, the demand for quality assurance from society is a mandatory to meet. It is because education is a part of public services and thus it needs accountability [14].

## III. METHODOLOGY

This study uses a qualitative method by examining the phenomenology case happened in the area of Ciampea-Bogor Indonesia. The selected area of Ciampea-Bogor is because it symbolizes the level of crowdedness of Indonesian students. Therefore, it can generalize the topic. In recent years, Bogor has transformed to be one of the most populated areas in Indonesia. The number of populations who lived is around 5.8 million. The Ciampea area itself has 160.487 populations. With the high level of density, the study aim at to examine to what extent those people have gained their right as citizens particularly related to the fulfilment of public facilities such as public school.

In terms of data collection, we used two main sources namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data contains of gathering information from interviewing the respondents. This study involved 20 respondents through an in-depth interview which consisted of the supervisor, principal of Junior High School 1 Ciampea Bogor, applicants (new students) and parents. Meanwhile, the secondary data means that all the information gathered from literature study and documentation pertaining to study conducted. After collecting the data, we attempted to use data analysis techniques as follows: a.) Data reduction. After the data gathered, all the information might not be extracted since some information might have a bias and it needs a clearer operational. Thus, it should be verified based on the existing and supporting literature which relevance to the issue taken, b.) Data clarification. The trusted information then can be categorized as the main source to strengthen the study. It is also necessary to give a narration and interpretation pertaining to the data, c.) Data conclusion. To draw a conclusion from the evidence, we look closely at the data presented and consider carefully how the data was obtained. We tried to always stay on the track based on the questioner given from the hypothesis.

**IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

*A. School Condition Before and After the Zoning System Policy*

Public Junior High School 1 of Ciampea is the only one junior high school under the government authority out of 14 junior high schools operated around the Ciampea’s area. Before the implementation of the zoning system, Public Junior High School 1 of Ciampea was not a very popular school to enrol since most likely new applicants have a tendency to choose other schools located in the outside of Ciampea area. The students are easily to determine which school they are going to as long as they are able to pass the entrance test from the targeted school. As a result, the competition among the applicants in enrolling the favourite schools was very cut-throat because every student seems to attempt their best to pass the test. Therefore, the favourite school becomes more superior while other non-favourite schools including Junior High School 1 of Ciampea becomes less priority.

However, after the implementation of zoning system policy, it simultaneously demolishes the dichotomy and gap between favourite and non-favourite schools. As it was mentioned in the introduction part, the pathway of entering school in Indonesia should consist of three ways which are the zoning system (90%), achievement pathways (5%) and transfer of parents/guardians (5%). Based on this policy, Public Junior High School 1 of Ciampea transforms to be the most favourable school to apply.

*B. Students’ Enrolment and the Effect of Schools Academic Performance*

As the effect of zoning system policy, the dramatic change happens to the Public Junior High School 1 of Ciampea. The applicants increased multiple times. From the data of 2019 given by the Indonesian ministry of education and culture, it tells that there are 50 elementary schools operated around that school and each of schools should enter to the Public Junior High School 1 of Ciampea. When it is calculated, out of 50 elementary schools, there are 14.117 alumni want to enrol Public Junior High School 1 of Ciampea. However, this school only has 10 classrooms available where every room is only filled by 32 students. In total, there are only 320 seats available for the new students. As it turns out, many applicants have been rejected because of the limited quota, also including the high-achievement students. This phenomenon simply affects the students’ academic performance in Public Junior High school 1 of Ciampea where the school has been experiencing a decreasing trend in national examination score.

As seen from database of the national examination test score, it exposed that throughout the implementation of the zoning system, the school performance in Public Junior High School 1 of Ciampea shows a declining trend. From the 2017/2018 school year, as the first year this program implemented, the average score was 76,09. However, by the next second year, 2018/2019, the average score showed 71,06 and as the third year this program implemented, 2019/2020 the average students’ score is 67, 03.

One of the major reasons why the average school academic performance shows a lower trend is because the majority students accepted was not coming from the tight selection. Rather, they simply just take for granted the given quota of 90%; regardless of the skill and ability.

Based on the conducted interview with the school supervisor, before the policy of zoning system applied, the schools regularly used three types of selection in order to get the best students candidate. The first step is the applicants would be reviewed based on the national final examination scores. The school regularly has set up the overall score. Students who are able to reach the predetermined score automatically are granted to pass the test. The second way to enter the school is through a skill and ability test. Normally the result of the test would be ranked from the highest score to the lowest score. The last one is manual testing. This test is also known as a general test. The test concept is pretty similar to the national examination test, including the material given such as math, science, Bahasa, English, and Social Science.

*C. Social Demand Analysis*

Based on the Indonesian Minister of Education Regulation No.15 of 2010 in line with the minimum standard for educational service, it states that the distance between one school to another is should be 3 km away by foot for public elementary school, while for public junior high school is 6 km. This rule is applied for schools located in the remote and suburban area. Another regulation is number of groups of studies for public elementary schools should also not exceed 32 students; while for public junior high school, it should not surpass 36 students.

From this law, then it can be formulated about the need of classrooms in the Ciampea area based on the Educational Indonesian Standard approach.

$\frac{\sum \text{Classrooms} = \sum \text{Group of Studies} = \sum \text{Students}}{32 \text{ students}}$
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$$\begin{aligned} \sum \text{Classrooms} &= 14.117/32 \\ &= 441,1563 \end{aligned}$$

From the result, it clearly states that the number of classrooms need in Ciampea’s area is 441. Thus, 441/10= 44,1 classrooms.

Based on the given calculation above, the school is supposed to add new classes or expand the existing classes. If it is possible, the government in the area of Ciampea should establish some other public junior high schools. The needed of public junior high schools is around 3 and 4 schools. By doing so, the implementation of zoning system in the area of Ciampea would be carried out optimally and it would be in line with the national government vision.

**V. CONCLUSION**

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that the students enrolment based on the zoning system policy should

be supported by the readiness of schools facilities. It is important to keep in mind that the readiness of facilities has a major impact for improving the school academic performance.

In addition, in order to maintain a good academic ambience in Public Junior High School 1 of Ciampea, the schools stakeholder should create an independent testing. Lastly, to maximize the implementation of zoning system policy in students' enrolment, the government should take a serious concern to establish some new public junior high schools in the area of Ciampea. This is important to do to ensure that every student has no burden in gaining a proper education provided by the government.

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