The influence of the founders of public primary schools in small municipalities on the educational direction of the school

Author: Bc. et Bc. Vojtěch Bílý

ABSTRACT

The thesis deals with the possible influence of founders of public primary school on the educational direction of the school. Although the law does not allow the direct influence of the founders on the management of the pedagogical process, there are a number of instruments by which the founders indirectly seek to apply their influence. In this work we first define the field of research, the state of the current knowledge of the subject and the basic concepts, and then we analyze the ways in which the founders use the influence, what pressure the school heads perceive and to what extent they are subject to it. In the practical part, we focus on primary schools in the Olomouc region in municipalities up to 5000 inhabitants where there is a prerequisite for the existence of only one school and there is usually a closer link between the school head and the mayor of the municipality. The practical part is based on questionnaires with the founders and the directors of the schools which are complemented with semi-structured interviews with the directors and the mayors of the municipalities. The results show that the majority of the founders do not influence the educational direction of the school. If the founders want to seek a change they choose to discuss it with the director the most often, less they tend to influence the school financially and rarely, they choose to dismiss a director. Decision making in the educational direction of the school of the most of the directors is not influenced by the opinions of the founders. Forty per cent of the directors consider the mayors' (as the founders of the schools) educational knowledge to be below-average or insufficient.