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School management -- a key for integration to the field of education in Europe

Main focus of this study is based on the idea that being an important component of the educational reform in the countries in transitions, competent school management is an integrative part of educational policy and an essential factor of successful system of education.

Practical application of diversified models of professional training and development for school management imply a strategic and careful consideration. Therefore, the main purpose of this study is to identify the educational needs concerning the managerial competences of school management, to project and propose a different models of their professional development. For this purpose a modified instrument for management training development needs analysis (Craig, 1996; Sofo, 1999; Alibabic, Ovesni, 2004) was applied on the sample of the management of elementary schools in Belgrade.

Collected information on difficulties, importance and frequency levels of a different tasks of school management represent a promising mechanism for modeling an effective program for their training and professional development. Statistically, the data suggest that development of management in the field of education is a very complex process, which requires some form of competency certification, if we want to integrate Serbian system of education into European field of education.

Key words: management in education, school management, educational needs, professional development, professional development of school management