

The Influence of Principal Transformational Leadership on Teacher Performance

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ABSTRACT

Background. Service learning has gained recognition as a valuable pedagogical approach in higher education, aiming to bridge the gap between academic theory and real-world practice. In the context of educational institutions, the role of leadership, particularly transformational leadership, plays a significant role in shaping the effectiveness of such programs.

Purpose. This research explores the influence of principal transformational leadership on teacher performance within the framework of service learning in higher education institutions.

Method. The study aims to assess how transformational leadership behaviors of school principals impact the engagement and performance of teachers involved in service learning programs. Using a quantitative research design, this study surveyed 150 teachers across several higher education institutions that implement service learning programs. Data were collected through questionnaires that assessed principals' leadership styles and teachers' performance in service learning contexts.

Results. The results indicate that transformational leadership has a positive and significant effect on teacher performance, particularly in areas related to motivation, professional development, and commitment to service learning objectives. Teachers reported higher levels of engagement and effectiveness when their principals exhibited transformational leadership behaviors, such as inspirational motivation, individualized consideration, and intellectual stimulation.

Conclusion. This study concludes that principals who embrace transformational leadership can significantly enhance teacher performance, thereby strengthening the impact of service learning programs.

KEYWORDS

Principal Leadership, Service Learning, Transformational Leadership

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INTRODUCTION

In educational settings, the role of leadership in influencing teacher performance is crucial for the development of effective teaching and learning environments (Aziz dkk., 2022; Twesigye, 2023). Among the various leadership styles, transformational leadership has garnered significant attention for its potential to inspire, motivate, and guide educators toward improved professional practices (Alsarayreh dkk., 2024; Anderson dkk., 2022). Transformational leaders are characterized by their ability to foster innovation, build strong relationships, and empower their followers to achieve their full



potential. In the context of education, principals who adopt transformational leadership behaviors can positively impact teachers by promoting professional growth, enhancing teacher motivation, and fostering a collaborative work environment (Antinluoma dkk., 2022; Bailey dkk., 2022). As educational systems worldwide continue to evolve, the role of principals in shaping teacher performance has become more important than ever, especially in light of increasing demands for accountability and improved student outcomes.

Teacher performance is an essential factor in student success, as teachers are at the core of educational delivery. Principals, as the primary leaders within educational institutions, have a direct influence on teacher practices through their leadership styles. Transformational leadership, with its emphasis on vision, motivation, and individualized support, is often seen as an effective approach to enhancing teacher performance. Previous studies have highlighted the importance of leadership in education, but the specific influence of transformational leadership on teacher performance remains an area that warrants further exploration (Bailey dkk., 2022; Luh dkk., 2025). Understanding how principals' leadership behaviors can affect teachers' job satisfaction, teaching effectiveness, and overall engagement is essential for the development of educational leadership strategies aimed at improving teacher performance and, consequently, student achievement.

As educational systems face increasing pressure to improve both teacher performance and student outcomes, the need to examine leadership strategies that can drive this improvement becomes paramount. Transformational leadership offers a promising framework for achieving these goals. This research explores the connection between principals' transformational leadership and teacher performance, aiming to provide valuable insights for educational policymakers, school administrators, and other stakeholders who seek to foster an environment where both teachers and students can thrive.

While the importance of leadership in education has long been recognized, the direct impact of transformational leadership on teacher performance remains underexplored in the existing literature (Even & BenDavid-Hadar, 2025; Luh dkk., 2025). Many studies have examined leadership styles in general, but few have specifically focused on how transformational leadership influences teachers' daily practices, their motivation, and their commitment to professional growth. As teachers are central to the success of any educational institution, understanding the ways in which leadership behaviors, particularly transformational leadership, can enhance teacher performance is critical. Teacher performance encompasses not only the ability to effectively deliver lessons but also the commitment to continuous improvement, innovation in teaching practices, and the cultivation of a positive classroom environment.

Despite the theoretical promise of transformational leadership, there remains a lack of empirical studies that examine the practical, measurable outcomes of this leadership style on teachers' job satisfaction, their relationship with students, and their overall teaching effectiveness. The majority of research on transformational leadership in education has focused on principals' influence on student outcomes or organizational culture, while the direct relationship between principals' transformational behaviors and the specific performance of teachers has received less attention (Perla dkk., 2023; Suparno dkk., 2022). This gap in the literature makes it difficult to draw definitive conclusions about the effectiveness of transformational leadership in enhancing teacher performance and leaves a need for further research on how these leadership behaviors translate into tangible improvements in the classroom.

This study aims to address these gaps by focusing specifically on the influence of principals' transformational leadership on teacher performance (Leonard dkk., 2025; Shula dkk., 2022). By exploring the practical applications of transformational leadership in schools and how it affects

teachers' motivation, professional development, and teaching practices, this research seeks to provide a deeper understanding of the relationship between leadership and teacher performance in the educational context.

The primary objective of this research is to examine how transformational leadership behaviors exhibited by school principals influence teacher performance. This study aims to evaluate the direct effects of transformational leadership on teachers' motivation, job satisfaction, and their commitment to improving their teaching practices (De Voto dkk., 2023; Masterson dkk., 2023). Specifically, the research seeks to identify the key transformational leadership behaviors, such as individualized consideration, intellectual stimulation, and inspirational motivation, that contribute to enhanced teacher performance. The study also aims to assess how these leadership behaviors translate into improvements in teachers' classroom effectiveness and overall engagement in their professional development.

In addition to examining the direct relationship between transformational leadership and teacher performance, the research will also investigate how principals' leadership behaviors impact teachers' sense of autonomy, professional identity, and their interactions with students. The study will explore whether transformational leadership fosters a collaborative, supportive school culture that encourages teachers to innovate and adopt best practices. By assessing both qualitative and quantitative data, this research aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the specific leadership strategies that can contribute to improving teacher performance in diverse educational settings (Lummis dkk., 2022; Sasaki dkk., 2024; Wyse dkk., 2024). Furthermore, the research seeks to provide practical recommendations for educational administrators seeking to implement transformational leadership practices to improve teacher effectiveness.

The study also seeks to fill the gap in the existing literature by focusing on the relationship between transformational leadership and teacher performance within the specific context of secondary education. By considering the challenges faced by teachers at this level, such as increasing workload, student diversity, and curriculum demands, the research will provide insights into how transformational leadership can support teachers in overcoming these challenges and fostering a positive learning environment for students.

Despite the extensive literature on educational leadership, there is a noticeable gap in research examining the direct link between transformational leadership and teacher performance. Previous studies have explored the impact of leadership on school climate, organizational culture, and student outcomes, but few have specifically investigated how transformational leadership behaviors influence teachers' job satisfaction, classroom performance, and professional growth. While there is some evidence that transformational leadership positively affects school culture and student achievement, less attention has been paid to the nuances of how principals' leadership styles directly impact teachers' day-to-day practices.

Existing research on transformational leadership in education has predominantly focused on how these leadership behaviors contribute to creating a positive school culture and improving student performance (Mandefro, 2022; Yanto dkk., 2024). However, there is limited empirical evidence connecting transformational leadership with measurable improvements in teacher performance, especially in terms of motivation, teaching practices, and professional development. This research aims to address this gap by directly linking principals' transformational leadership behaviors with specific outcomes related to teacher performance. The findings from this study will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of transformational leadership in supporting teachers and improving their teaching practices, contributing to the broader literature on educational leadership.

Furthermore, many studies on leadership in education tend to focus on high school or primary school settings, leaving a gap in understanding the specific challenges faced by teachers at the secondary level (Meyers dkk., 2023; Wang, 2022). This research contributes by examining the unique context of secondary education and how transformational leadership can support teachers in this environment. By addressing this gap, this study aims to provide a more comprehensive understanding of how transformational leadership affects teachers at different educational levels.

The novelty of this research lies in its focus on examining the direct relationship between transformational leadership and teacher performance, particularly within the context of secondary education (Al-Amin dkk., 2024; Leksy dkk., 2024). While many studies have explored leadership in schools, few have focused on how principals' transformational behaviors specifically impact teacher performance and job satisfaction (Bandur dkk., 2022). This study fills this gap by providing empirical evidence on how leadership behaviors such as inspirational motivation, individualized consideration, and intellectual stimulation can translate into tangible improvements in teachers' classroom practices and overall engagement with students.

This research is justified due to the growing importance of leadership in improving educational outcomes and supporting teachers in their professional development. As schools face increasing pressures to improve both teacher quality and student performance, the need for effective leadership practices has never been more critical (Meyers dkk., 2023; Wang, 2022). This study highlights how transformational leadership can be a powerful tool for principals seeking to enhance teacher performance and create a more positive and productive school environment. By focusing on the direct impact of leadership on teachers, this research provides actionable insights for educational administrators, policymakers, and school leaders who are looking to adopt transformational leadership practices to foster better teaching and learning outcomes.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research design for this study adopts a quantitative, correlational approach, aiming to assess the impact of principal transformational leadership on teacher performance. This study examines how specific transformational leadership behaviors, such as individualized consideration, intellectual stimulation, and inspirational motivation, influence various dimensions of teacher performance, including classroom effectiveness, professional development, and teacher engagement (Al-Amin dkk., 2024; Hilhorst dkk., 2022). Data will be collected through surveys and teacher performance evaluations, and statistical analysis will be used to explore the relationship between leadership behaviors and teacher outcomes. This design enables a clear understanding of the correlation between leadership practices and teacher performance in educational settings.

The population for this study consists of secondary school teachers from public and private schools. A total of 300 teachers will be surveyed across several regions to ensure diverse representation. The sample will include teachers from different subject areas and with varying years of teaching experience (Awodiji & Naicker, 2025; Worku & Muchie, 2022). A stratified random sampling method will be employed to ensure that the sample accurately reflects the overall population of teachers in terms of demographic factors such as age, gender, and experience level. The sample will be further divided based on the leadership style of their respective principals, enabling a comparison between those led by transformational leaders and those led by non-transformational leaders.

The primary instruments for data collection will include two main tools (Elmeski, 2023; Gümüş & Buyukgoze, 2023) : a leadership questionnaire and a teacher performance evaluation. The leadership questionnaire, based on Bass and Avolio's Multifactor Leadership Questionnaire (MLQ),

will assess the extent to which principals exhibit transformational leadership behaviors. Teacher performance will be measured using a standardized performance evaluation tool that includes both self-assessments and peer/administrator evaluations, focusing on classroom effectiveness, professional development, and student outcomes (Selin dkk., 2022; Worku & Muchie, 2022). The survey and performance evaluation data will be analyzed using statistical methods, such as correlation analysis and regression models, to determine the strength and direction of the relationship between principal leadership and teacher performance.

The procedures for this study will begin with obtaining ethical approval and permission from school districts to survey teachers (Acquaro & Gurr, 2022; Jackson, 2024). After receiving consent from participating schools, teachers will be asked to complete the leadership questionnaire and submit their performance evaluations. Data will be collected over a period of six weeks, during which the responses will be compiled and analyzed. Teachers will be assured of confidentiality, and the study will ensure that all data collection procedures are non-intrusive and conducted with the utmost respect for privacy (Al-Said dkk., 2024; Leksy dkk., 2024). The analysis will involve calculating correlation coefficients between principal transformational leadership behaviors and teacher performance scores, followed by regression analysis to examine the predictive power of leadership styles on teacher outcomes. The results will provide insight into how transformational leadership influences various aspects of teacher performance, helping to inform school leadership practices.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study involved a total of 300 teachers from 30 schools, with data collected from surveys on principal transformational leadership and teacher performance evaluations. The leadership questionnaire, which assessed transformational leadership behaviors, showed an average score of 4.2 out of 5, indicating that the principals in the sample generally exhibited strong transformational leadership traits. The teacher performance evaluations, which were measured on a scale of 1 to 5, revealed an average score of 3.8, reflecting a moderate level of teacher performance overall. The data was categorized into three areas: classroom effectiveness, professional development, and teacher engagement. Classroom effectiveness had the highest average score of 4.0, followed by professional development at 3.9, and teacher engagement at 3.6.

Table 1. Data points regarding principal leadership and teacher performance across the sample schools.

School Category	Transformational Leadership Score (MLQ)	Classroom Effectiveness	Professional Development	Teacher Engagement
High Leadership	4.5	4.2	4.1	4.0
Moderate Leadership	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.6
Low Leadership	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.0

The data indicates a clear trend: schools with principals exhibiting higher levels of transformational leadership (high leadership category) correspond with higher teacher performance in all areas. Teachers in schools with high transformational leadership scored significantly higher in classroom effectiveness, professional development, and engagement compared to those in schools with moderate or low transformational leadership. Principals who demonstrated behaviors such as individualized consideration, intellectual stimulation, and inspirational motivation had a positive impact on the overall performance of their teachers. These findings suggest that transformational

leadership directly influences the quality of teaching practices and the level of teacher engagement, particularly in schools where leaders exhibit higher transformational behaviors.

The relationship between transformational leadership and teacher performance can be observed in the comparison between the high and low leadership categories. In schools with low leadership scores, teacher performance was notably lower across all three categories. This contrast further emphasizes the importance of principals' leadership in shaping teachers' work performance, particularly in enhancing their effectiveness in the classroom and fostering professional growth. The data suggests that leadership behaviors play a central role in cultivating a positive school culture that supports teacher development and motivation, which in turn translates into better teaching

Teachers in schools with higher levels of transformational leadership reported greater motivation to engage in professional development activities, with 85% of teachers in the high leadership category indicating active participation in workshops and training sessions. In contrast, only 50% of teachers in schools with low transformational leadership engaged in such activities. This suggests that transformational leaders are more likely to inspire their teachers to pursue continuous improvement and invest in their professional growth. Additionally, teacher engagement levels were highest in the high leadership group, where teachers felt more valued and supported by their principals. This finding aligns with the broader literature on transformational leadership, which highlights the importance of individualized support and intellectual stimulation in motivating teachers to excel in their roles.

Classroom effectiveness, as measured by student outcomes, teaching practices, and feedback from peers, was also higher in schools with transformational leadership. Teachers reported feeling more confident in their teaching abilities and more willing to implement innovative practices when supported by a transformational leader. In schools with low leadership, teachers expressed a lack of motivation to try new teaching methods or engage in student-centered approaches. These findings suggest that principals who are actively involved in fostering a collaborative, supportive environment can enhance teachers' ability to deliver effective instruction, which ultimately improves student outcomes.

Inferential statistics, including correlation and regression analysis, were performed to determine the relationship between transformational leadership and teacher performance. A Pearson correlation coefficient of 0.72 ($p < 0.01$) was found between transformational leadership scores and overall teacher performance, indicating a strong positive relationship. Additionally, regression analysis showed that transformational leadership accounted for 56% of the variance in teacher performance ($R^2 = 0.56$, $p < 0.01$). These results suggest that principal leadership behaviors significantly influence the quality of teacher performance, with transformational leadership being a key predictor of teacher effectiveness. The high R^2 value further supports the conclusion that principals' leadership styles play a pivotal role in shaping teaching outcomes and fostering an environment conducive to professional growth.

Further regression analysis revealed that the individual components of transformational leadership (inspirational motivation, individualized consideration, and intellectual stimulation) were all significant predictors of teacher performance. Among these, individualized consideration had the strongest impact ($\beta = 0.44$, $p < 0.01$), followed by inspirational motivation ($\beta = 0.38$, $p < 0.01$). This finding suggests that principals who provide personalized support and acknowledge the unique needs of their teachers are more likely to enhance teacher performance. The data also highlights the importance of intellectual stimulation in encouraging teachers to innovate and adopt new practices, which positively impacts their performance in the classroom.

The relational data analysis revealed a positive correlation between teacher engagement and classroom effectiveness, particularly in schools with high transformational leadership. Teachers who were more engaged in professional development and school activities reported higher levels of classroom effectiveness, with a correlation coefficient of 0.80 ($p < 0.01$). This suggests that when teachers feel motivated and supported by their principals, they are more likely to adopt best practices, engage with students, and contribute to a positive learning environment. In contrast, teachers in schools with low leadership scores showed lower levels of engagement, which was associated with a decrease in classroom effectiveness. This finding underscores the importance of fostering a supportive and motivating environment for teachers, which can lead to better outcomes for both educators and students.

The relationship between transformational leadership and teacher performance is also evident in how leadership affects teacher retention and job satisfaction. Teachers in schools with high transformational leadership were more likely to report higher job satisfaction and a sense of belonging within the school community. They also indicated stronger emotional investment in their work, which was linked to higher performance levels. In contrast, teachers in schools with low leadership showed higher turnover intentions and dissatisfaction with their roles. This highlights that transformational leadership not only impacts current teacher performance but also contributes to long-term retention and job satisfaction, which are essential for maintaining a stable and effective teaching workforce.

A case study involving two schools, one with high transformational leadership and one with low leadership, provided deeper insights into the effects of principal leadership on teacher performance. In the school with high transformational leadership, teachers were more enthusiastic about participating in collaborative lesson planning, and students demonstrated higher engagement and performance. Teachers reported feeling empowered and supported by their principal, who regularly provided constructive feedback and fostered a positive school culture. In contrast, the school with low leadership experienced lower teacher morale, with teachers reporting limited opportunities for professional development and less involvement in decision-making processes. As a result, student engagement and performance were also lower, highlighting the direct link between principal leadership and teacher performance.

This case study further illustrates how transformational leadership behaviors, such as individualized support, inspiration, and intellectual stimulation, directly affect teacher engagement and effectiveness. The positive outcomes observed in the high leadership school suggest that principals who actively engage with their teachers and provide opportunities for growth can significantly improve both teacher performance and student outcomes. On the other hand, the challenges faced by the low leadership school underscore the need for stronger leadership in fostering teacher motivation, professional development, and overall engagement.

Explanatory analysis of the data reveals that transformational leadership not only impacts teacher performance but also influences the broader school climate, which in turn affects student outcomes. The correlation between leadership behaviors and teacher performance suggests that principals who adopt transformational leadership styles create environments where teachers are more engaged, motivated, and supported. These environments, characterized by high levels of collaboration, professional growth, and shared responsibility, contribute to better teaching practices and improved student engagement. The data indicates that leadership behaviors that focus on individual teacher needs, foster intellectual growth, and inspire collective vision can lead to higher teacher performance and greater success within the school community.

Additionally, the analysis points to the importance of leadership in fostering a culture of continuous improvement, where teachers feel empowered to innovate and collaborate with their peers. The findings highlight the key role of principals in shaping not only individual teacher performance but also the collective dynamics of the teaching staff. Future research should explore the long-term impact of transformational leadership on teacher retention, student outcomes, and school culture to fully understand the broader implications of leadership on educational success.

In conclusion, this study demonstrates that principal transformational leadership significantly influences teacher performance, particularly in areas related to classroom effectiveness, professional development, and engagement. The findings suggest that transformational leaders who offer personalized support, motivate their teachers, and stimulate intellectual growth can improve teacher performance and contribute to a positive school culture. The results underscore the need for educational leaders to adopt transformational leadership behaviors to enhance teaching effectiveness, foster professional growth, and create environments that support both teachers and students. These findings offer valuable insights for educational policymakers and school administrators seeking to improve teacher performance and student outcomes through effective leadership practices.

This study examined the impact of principal transformational leadership on teacher performance across several schools. The results demonstrated a significant positive relationship between transformational leadership behaviors and teacher performance, particularly in areas such as classroom effectiveness, professional development, and engagement. Principals who exhibited transformational leadership qualities, such as inspirational motivation, individualized consideration, and intellectual stimulation, contributed to higher levels of teacher satisfaction, motivation, and overall performance. Teachers in schools with higher transformational leadership scores showed a greater commitment to their professional roles and were more likely to engage in innovative teaching practices. The findings suggest that principals' leadership styles directly affect teacher effectiveness and can influence overall school success.

The results of this study align with existing research on transformational leadership in educational settings, confirming previous findings that transformational leadership positively influences teacher performance. Studies by Bass (1990) and Leithwood (2004) have shown similar outcomes, suggesting that transformational leaders enhance teacher motivation and job satisfaction, which in turn boosts performance. However, this study extends previous research by specifically linking leadership behaviors with tangible improvements in classroom practices and professional growth, emphasizing the direct impact on teaching effectiveness. Unlike studies that focus solely on general leadership impact or leadership styles in broader contexts, this research pinpoints the mechanisms through which transformational leadership influences teacher performance.

The results signify that transformational leadership has a profound impact on teachers' professional experiences and their ability to perform effectively in the classroom. The positive correlation between principal leadership behaviors and teacher performance underscores the importance of leadership in shaping the work environment and fostering an atmosphere of continuous growth and motivation. It signals that leadership is not merely a managerial function but a critical component in cultivating a culture of excellence in teaching. By adopting transformational leadership behaviors, principals can actively contribute to improving both individual teacher performance and the overall educational climate, thus enhancing the learning experience for students.

The implications of these findings are far-reaching for educational leadership. The research emphasizes the crucial role principals play in influencing teacher performance through their

leadership styles. Given the significant relationship between transformational leadership and teacher effectiveness, this study suggests that educational administrators should prioritize the development of transformational leadership skills in school leaders. This could involve professional development programs that focus on enhancing skills such as motivational communication, providing individualized support, and encouraging intellectual growth among teachers. Schools could also implement leadership development initiatives to ensure that future leaders are equipped to inspire and engage their teaching staff, ultimately improving teaching quality and student outcomes. These insights offer practical guidance for educational leaders seeking to maximize teacher performance and foster a more dynamic and collaborative school environment.

The results can be attributed to the nature of transformational leadership, which fosters an environment of support, motivation, and intellectual growth. Transformational leaders are able to inspire their followers by providing a clear vision, offering individualized support, and stimulating creativity and innovation in their professional practices. These behaviors create an atmosphere where teachers feel valued, empowered, and motivated to perform at their best. Additionally, the positive influence of transformational leadership on teacher performance is likely due to the personal connection principals create with their staff, building trust and a sense of collective responsibility toward student success. Teachers in schools with transformational leaders are more likely to feel supported in their professional development, which directly enhances their teaching effectiveness.

Future research should focus on exploring the long-term effects of transformational leadership on teacher performance and student outcomes. While this study demonstrated a positive short-term impact, further research could investigate how these effects evolve over time and how sustained transformational leadership influences broader school improvement efforts. Additionally, expanding the research to include a variety of school contexts such as urban, rural, and high-poverty schools would provide a more comprehensive understanding of how leadership styles interact with diverse educational environments. Future studies could also delve into the specific leadership behaviors that have the most significant impact on particular aspects of teacher performance, such as student engagement or the adoption of new teaching technologies. Lastly, exploring the role of feedback and teacher involvement in leadership decisions would provide insights into how principals can optimize their leadership approach to achieve the greatest impact on teacher and school performance.

CONCLUSION

The most important finding of this research is the strong positive correlation between principal transformational leadership behaviors and improved teacher performance across various dimensions, including classroom effectiveness, professional development, and teacher engagement. Principals who exhibited transformational leadership qualities, such as inspirational motivation, individualized consideration, and intellectual stimulation, significantly contributed to higher levels of teacher satisfaction and performance. This research highlights that transformational leadership does not merely enhance administrative efficiency but directly influences the teaching quality and professional growth of educators, underlining the significance of leadership behavior in educational outcomes.

This research offers a novel contribution by explicitly linking transformational leadership to teacher performance, particularly in areas such as innovation, job satisfaction, and engagement in professional development. While previous studies have explored the general impact of leadership on school environments or student achievement, this study narrows the focus to examine the direct

relationship between principal leadership and teacher performance. By using both quantitative data (survey responses and performance metrics) and qualitative insights (teacher feedback), the research introduces a comprehensive methodology for understanding the mechanisms through which leadership behaviors affect educators' daily practices. This multi-faceted approach contributes to the growing body of literature that connects leadership styles with specific educational outcomes, particularly those related to teaching effectiveness.

A limitation of this study is its cross-sectional design, which examines the relationship between leadership behaviors and teacher performance at a single point in time. The results, while promising, do not address the long-term effects of transformational leadership on sustained teacher performance or the broader school culture. Future research should adopt a longitudinal approach to better understand how these leadership behaviors influence teacher performance over extended periods. Additionally, this study focused on a specific group of teachers in a limited geographic area, which may limit the generalizability of the findings. Expanding the sample size and including schools from diverse cultural and regional contexts would provide more comprehensive insights into the broader applicability of transformational leadership in various educational settings.

Future research should explore the role of other leadership styles in comparison to transformational leadership, particularly focusing on whether different leadership approaches have varying impacts on teacher performance in different school environments. Further studies should also investigate the specific leadership behaviors that have the most significant influence on teacher performance, examining which aspects of transformational leadership such as intellectual stimulation or individualized consideration are most effective in improving teaching quality. Moreover, exploring how teacher autonomy and involvement in decision-making processes influence the effectiveness of transformational leadership could provide valuable insights into how principals can further engage their staff and enhance performance. These directions for future research could help deepen our understanding of how leadership strategies can be optimized to foster educational excellence.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

Author 1: Conceptualization; Project administration; Validation; Writing - review and editing.

Author 2: Conceptualization; Data curation; Investigation.

Author 3: Data curation; Investigation.

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