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Dear Author,

After having carefully evaluated your article titled **“The Visualization of The Exploratory Schools in the Capital Amman for The Concept of the Community School”** and taken the referees' advice into consideration, the editors came to the conclusion that your paper is suitable for publication in our Journal.

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Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Adrian Marcus Steinberg.

Adrian Marcus Steinberg, PhD  
Managing Editor

The Visualization of the Exploratory Schools in the Capital Amman for the Concept of the Community School

Journal of Education

Keywords:

The study aims to explore the role of exploratory schools in the development of the concept of community school in Amman, Jordan. The study was conducted in Amman, Jordan, and was designed to explore the role of exploratory schools in the development of the concept of community school. The study was conducted in Amman, Jordan, and was designed to explore the role of exploratory schools in the development of the concept of community school. The study was conducted in Amman, Jordan, and was designed to explore the role of exploratory schools in the development of the concept of community school.

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# **The Visualization of The Exploratory Schools in the Capital Amman for The Concept of the Community School**

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## **Abstract**

The study aimed to the visualization of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the concept of community school from their perspective and its relation with some variables. To answer the questions of the study , study tool was distributed to members of the sample which includes from (342) teachers, and a questionnaire has been improved which consists of (36) paragraphs, and a proper statistic methods were used to analyze the information, and the study reached several results such: that the visualization of the exploratory schools in the capital Amman for the concept of the community schools came in a high level and there is no differences with a statistic significance for the degree of practicing that attributed to sex and qualifications. There is a difference with statistic significance that is attributed to the variable of experience, and those differences came for the benefit of the individuals whom their experience ranges between (10) years and more. In the light of the results a set of recommendations were given including: the adoption of the generalization of the concept of the community school and activate it in all schools, to develop the partnership between the school and the community.

**keywords: (community school, the exploratory schools).**

## **Introduction:**

School is considered as one of the important community institutions that was established by the community to upbringing it's members. School is the institution which implement the objectives that the community wants and draws according to specific plans and curricula, interaction process, and programmed activities within and outside the classrooms at all levels of study, artistic, culture, sports, social, and other. Since upbringing is life, it became necessary for school to be a living and a developing part not to be isolated from the society.

The development of the relation between the school and the local community is considered one of the important factors to activate the role of the school and to increase its efficiency in the educational field. Literature refers, in the educational development field, to the importance of this relation and its effectiveness in the improvement of the level of the school output and in documenting the cognitive theoretical framework for the school within the community and its needs and its requirements to develop it (Gestwiki, 2007).

The relation between the school and the community is considered as one of the most complicated relations in the history of upbringing. The concept of the community school emerged at the beginning of the twentieth century, to serve the general objective of the school, to upgrade the student services in the health and the academic field and the social services and the participation engagement in the community in teaching adults and enhancing the communication with the local community. Since educators are convinced that child deserves to be disposed to any opportunity to learn, the community school contribute in its different fields such: health awareness by lectures and providing medical care in a free medical day, and provide help for the purpose of treatment, under the available school circumstance to convert the school to a community school through a future school vision and in ways that maintain the independence of the school. (Khatib, and Al-Khatib, 2006)

And according to the close relation between the upbringing and community, school can not operate in isolation from the community system and the community as whole. Despite of the relative independence for the school, it can not be considered as self-sufficient institution but it is closely linked with the community institutions in which

it is affected by them and versa vise. Modern community tended to view the school not just as educational institutions but as an educational institution with a community function based on serving the community and identifying its resources and its needs. In this context the concept of " the community school" was emerged , where in the light of this concept the role of the school is not limited on learning and teaching student, but it is beyond this, it is a vital role that the schools practices it in developing the surroundings and interact with it (Decker&Decker,2003).

The concept of the school of community that is based on the open interaction system for coexistence and mutual benefits with the community, confirms the reality of the contemporary school which became derived from its openness and its interaction with the issues and the needs of its community. The concept of "the community school" calls for placement the facilities and the possibilities of the school in serving the local community, and from aspects of that: the shares use of the buildings of the school and its facilities and the use of the squares and the stadiums for social and sports festivals, and theater and take advantage of the available experiences in the school to make training courses and literacy classes and other types of continuing teaching. (Ediger,2004).

In this context accrued the concept of "the school of community", in which the role of the school is not limited on the learning and teaching of the students , but it is a vital role that the school practices in developing its surroundings and interaction with it. The concept of the school of community that is based on the open interaction system for coexistence and mutual benefits with the community, confirms the reality of the contemporary school which became derived from its openness and its interaction with the issues and the needs of its community. ( AlKateeb &Alkateeb,2006 ). And the concept of "the community school" calls for placement the facilities and the possibilities of the school in serving the local community, and from aspects of that: the shares use of the buildings of the school and its facilities and the use of the squares and the stadiums for social and sports festivals, and theater and take advantage of the available experiences in the school to make training courses and literacy classes and other types of continuing teaching. (Decler & Romney , 1992)

The community school is defined as the school which provides a service to a small geographic area, where fathers, mothers, and children are involved in programs that serves the local community, such as : adult education programs , and entertaining programs or the programs that suit the individuals' needs and wishes in the local community , those entertaining programs or the programs that suit the individuals' needs and wishes in the local community were implemented by using the buildings and the facilities of the school (Dryfoos, 2003) .

The development of the relation and the cooperation between the school and the local community contributes in increasing the contribution of the school and its effectiveness with the community development movement, and in increasing the exchange of educational and scientific experiences, and resources, and facilities ,and enable the school to activate its cooperation with the local community and its institutions, through activate the benefit from the human and material potentials which the school owns, and through the determination of the local community needs and the issues that community face. (Ediger,2004).

Based on that the nature of community determines the dimensions of the educational process, the expected role for the school needs preparation for the individuals to practice their future roles through discovering their interests and their abilities according to what suits the community needs. Through this process everything that the student learn converts from information, experiences, and skills to cognitive balance helps him not only in practicing his role in community ,but also helps him in understanding the nature of the social and cultural system and the role that could be played by him on the local and global level ( Gestwiki, (2007) .

### **The problem and the questions of the study:**

The purpose of this study is to identify the visualization of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the concept of the community school from their perspective, and the study will try to answer on these following questions:

- 1- What is the degree of the visualizing of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the concept of the community school from their perspective?

2- Are there any differences with statistic significance on the significance level ( $\alpha \geq 0.05$ ) in the visualizing of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the concept of the community school from their perspective that is attributed to the variables of sex, experience, and qualifications?

### **The importance of the study:**

The importance of the study comes from the following:

- 1- It is expected that the decision makers in the ministry of education , and the schools administrations will benefit from the results of this study in developing their relation with the local community institutions.
- 2- It is hoped that the study will contribute in encouraging other researchers from the field of education to do other searches about the concept of the community school to reinforce cooperation and partnership between the local community and the school in another regions in the kingdom.

### **The limits and the determinations of the study:**

This current study is determined by several determinates as follows:

- 1- Its subject that it is studying; which is the visualizing of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the concept of the community school from their perspective.
- 2- Study sample; and they are the teachers in the exploratory schools in the capital Amman of male and female gender.
- 3- Tools used; and it is the scale of the concept of the community school, which was prepared and the generalize of the results based on the sincerely and stability of the scale.
- 4- At the time when it was applied; and it is on the first semester of the academic year 2012/2013.
- 5- This study is united with the ability of generalize its results on the communities that are similar to this communities.

### **Procedurally definition of terms:**

\* **The community school:** Blanck and Pearson defined the community school ; it integrate education with health and the community services to create the appropriate environment so students, teachers, parents, and the surrounding community could communicate , to move toward the general goal to improve the success of the students and enable them with the needed skills to serve the local community and its institutions. ( Blanck & Pearson, 2008)

\* **The exploratory schools:** it is a group of schools that belong to the ministry of education within the capital province Amman and the Jordanian Education Initiative supervises on it, and characterized by infrastructure that serves computer labs to activate the computerized curriculums in it ( the Ministry Of Education, 2007) and it is required from its administrators and teachers to obtain the basic skills computer courses, which qualify them to work in the exploratory schools, and the educational improvement programs are implemented in there before generalizing those programs in the kingdom later. ( The Jordanian Education Initiative, 2007)

### **The previous studies:**

The researchers Blank and others (2010) have reached that the implementation of the community school strategy is one of the best ways and means that contribute in improving the output of the children, families, school, and communities, and this is what appointed to. It the results of study (20) initiative of community school from the union pilot schools participating in Stanford (2008-2009) which showed a significant improvement in the performance of the individual school after its actual engagement in the community school, the students' result in the individual school progressed in the final and the formative assessment in the field of quantitative and qualitative measure.

The researcher( Bushanan.2009) pointed to build a community relation in schools to adopt community health in the school of Kentucky Bardiston in the United States , where it is not possible to face all the health challenges for just the children unless through partnerships between the local public and private institutions to create a



coordination between them which looks forward to achieve all the educational and health objectives.

The study of Shelton and others (2009) has showed and aimed to determine the security measure in public schools according to the geographic site in the high schools, which included four geographic provinces: south, north, east, and west. And included three social conditions: rural, urban, and city. The study results showed that the partnership between the school administration, workers, and students and partners from the local community could take into account combining and mixing between the security and safety measure, and decrease violence and abuse inside the school to prevent hurt, and provide a secure and proper education far from abuse.

The study results showed ( Jordan Education Initiative,2009) in Jordan that the engagement of lap tops and the internet in the educational process reinforce the communication between the student, the teacher, the local community, and the school administration, and contribute in the achievement of school projects also this engagement creates an interesting educational environment that supports the scientific research for the students and it diversities in the enrichment summer activities, which increases the motivation in the students to learn, and to face some problems that is resulted from the information technology and connections engagement, such : slow network or the lack of some software which is specially for education. The study has recommended the workers in the school more training to reinforce the partnership in communicating with the students and to face technical problems in using the labs to arrange an affective school environment between the educational leadership and the students' advanced achievement.

Also the study results of (Blank and Pearson,2008) have showed about the concept of the community school in the United States Of America, that the strategy of the community school concept has mad an accomplish in the academic achievement, and the essential improvement in the extracurricular development. The parents of the community school students showed a balance, stability, and consistency in communicating with the teachers and in integration in the school and a wide recognition of taking responsibility in educating their children, the community school enjoys in the strong relation between the teacher and the parent which increases the

teacher's satisfaction and provides a more positive school environment, a wonderful community support, and elevate in using the best to engage the school construction in the community.

The researcher benefited from the previous researches in developing the tool, the methodology, and the conceptual framework.

### **The Study Methodology:**

This study followed the descriptive analytical method to achieve the objectives of this study

### **The Study Population:**

The study population consisted from (100) exploratory school in the capital province of Amman which belongs to the ministry Of Education and which the Jordanian Educational Initiative supervises on for the second semester for the academic year of (2011/2012). A purposive sample has been chosen which is (33) schools , but the study sample consisted of all the members of the study population, whom are (342) teachers .

This table (1) shows it:

variable	category	number	Percentage
Gender	Male	127	37%
	Female	215	63%
Qualification	Academy	38	11%
	Bachelor	213	62%
	Higher Diploma	44	13%
	Master	44	13%
	Doctorate	3	1%
Experience	1 – 5 years	109	32%
	5 – 10 years	79	23%

	More than 10 years	154	45%
Total		342	100%

### **The study Tool:**

After reviewing the educational literature and the previous studies which are related to the community school, the study tool has been developed (questionnaire) includes (36) paragraph which reflect the degree of the virtualization of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the concept of the community school from their perspective.

### **The sincerity of the Tool:**

To make sure of the sincerity of the tool it was displayed on a number of educational arbitrators in universities in Jordan, educational supervisors, and the exploratory school teachers and administrations, and they were asked to give their opinion on the questionnaire in the terms of the paragraphs appropriation and its affiliation with the paragraph field, and the accuracy of the linguistic formulation of the paragraphs, and any other suggestions. The educational arbitrators approve on the finalized tool came as an evidence and indicator of the sincerity of these paragraphs content.

### **The Tool stability:**

The questionnaire stability has been verified using internal consistency depending on the equation of (Cronbach's alpha) where the reliability coefficient for identification is (0.98).

### **The study results and Its discussion:**

**The results that are related to the first question and its discussion: "what is the virtualization of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the community school from their perspective?"**

To answer this question averages and standard deviations were calculated , and table (2) shows it:

**Table (2)**

**The averages and the standard deviations for the virtualization of the exploratory schools teachers for the community school in the capital Amman from their perspective is On the questionnaire as a whole in descending order**

Field number	Rank	Fields	Average	Standard deviation	Degree of impact
1	1	Objectives of the community school which are related to family	3.70	0.821	High
2	2	Objectives of the community school which are related to school	3.69	0.734	High
3	3	Objectives of the community school which are related to community	3.69	0.861	High
		Total	3.72	0.739	

Table (2) shows that the average of the visualization of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the community school concept from their perspective is (3.72) and in a high degree. And to know the visualization of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the community school concept from their perspective on each field separately , averages and standard deviations were extracted for each field and each passage. Table (3) shows it:

**Table (3)**  
**The averages and the standard deviations for the virtualization of the**  
**exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the community school**  
**concept on the tool fields on a descending order**

Number of paragraph	Rank	Paragraphs	Average	Standard deviation	Degree of practice
<b>The first field: the community school concept related to family:</b>					
1	1	Develops loyalty in learners intellectually, affection, and behavior, and express it through respect for the rights of the individuals	3.80	1.041	
2	2	Contributes in developing cooperation, participation, and democracy among the members of the same family	3.77	1.013	
9	3	Develops the way of resolving problems to face life situations	3.75	1.003	
4	4	Develops the individual's leadership abilities and improves his social character	3.68	1.001	
6	4	Provide a chance for learners to participate on the role of family to implement the knowledge and skills which they taught in school	3.68	1.046	
7	6	Develop the methodology	3.66	1.011	

		of the scientific research and skills of the scientific method			
5	6	Encourage to take responsibility and initiate towards family issues	3.66	1.106	
3	8	Keen on the volunteer work and the interactive with the public and private institutions at the family level	3.64	0.965	
8	9	Develop decisions making in the situations that face learners	3.63	1.092	
<b>The second field: the community school concept related to school:</b>					
5	1	Make the school a radiation center for the surrounding environment by taking advantage of its facilities as learning and teaching centers.	4.00	0.795	High
9	2	Keep pace with the social, economical, and technological changes in the community	3.85	0.774	High
12	3	Contributes in developing cooperation, participation, and democracy between members of the local community and family and community of school	3.77	1.037	High
1	4	Upgrading the learners moral level and avoid them obscene expressions	3.75	1.181	High
8	5	The objectives of the community school integrate with the objectives of the other educational and social institutions	3.74	0.913	High
3	6	Verify the principle of learning for all by resist some customs and traditions that prevent implying it	3.72	1.017	High
14	7	Verifying the comprehensive development for learners	3.70	1.019	High

		mentally, physically, and spiritually. and care of them socially and medically to achieve the basic needs for the learner beside the educational psychological, physical, economical, entertaining, and social needs			
15	8	Discovers preferences and interests, the aspects of learning for life ,and methodological thinking	3.68	0.923	High
6	9	Depends on effective participation for the community through program planning, implementation , and follow it up to increase the effectiveness of the educational performance	3.68	0.923	High
2	10	Reinforce self confident for learners far away from racial, sexual, and religious discriminations	3.66	1.129	Medium
16	11	Provides continues development for the workers in the school by continuing training to reach the educational objectives to keep up with the renewable age changes	3.62	0.970	Medium
11	12	Local environment become a source of learning and community members can help improve the performance of the students	3.59	1.090	Medium
13	13	The actual application and practice for the democratic methods inside and outside the school	3.56	0.954	Medium
4	14	Expansion of educational services to include all regions and the most needy rural and remote regions	3.55	1.060	Medium
7	15	Improve the human's standards of living and reduce the social problems	3.52	1.063	Medium

		such: crimes, unemployment, illness, poverty, and divorce			
10	16	Working to improve the effectiveness of the school and the quality of their output through supporting the school financially in the first place	3.41	0.923	Medium

<b>The third field: the community school concept related to community:</b>					
3	1	The openness of the school on the community through parents	3.93	1.024	High
7	2	Ensure of the formation of life skills such: Communication and participation, research and inquiry and problem solving, negotiation and decision-making, evaluation and influence			
1	3	Prepare the young people for the labor market by reinforcement the virtuous behaviors for learners and try to publish it among community members	3.73	1.065	High
11	4	Local environment become a source of learning and community members can help improve the performance of the students	3.71	1.061	High
8	5	Develop the awareness in the educational issues by giving parents the necessary instructions to evaluate the learner and overcome weakness	3.70	1.021	High
5	5	Release the learners' potentials and acquire them foundations of learning and	3.70	1.056	High



		possess the knowledge and skills necessary for development			
2	7	Building a believer in God generation with a national identity and Arab-Islamic culture and humanitarian	3.68	1.022	High
6	8	Capacity development of learners and enable them to expand their choices in work and enriching to fit the characteristics of their community and its history and culture	3.64	1.025	Medium
10	9	Teach parents how to work and innovation and live in the community	3.60	1.010	Medium
4	11	To strengthen and stabilize the acceptable behaviors and community development for the better through training events	3.52	1.032	Medium

The table (3) shows the virtualization of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the community school concept from their perspective on the study paragraphs fields each one separately and on descending order. In the field of the community school concept related to family the averages range between (3.80) at its highest and was for the paragraph (develop loyalty among learners intellectually, spiritually, and behavior and express it through respect for the rights of the individual) and between (3.63) in its lowest and was for the paragraph (improve decision making in situations that teachers face).

And about the second field (the community school concept related to school) the averages range from (4.00) at its highest and the paragraph was (make the school a radiation center of the surrounding environment to take advantage of its facilities as a learning and teaching centers) and (3.41) at its lowest and the paragraph was (improve the school affectiveness and the quality of its output through supporting the school financially in the first place). And about the third field (the community school concept related to community) the averages ranged from (3.93) at its highest and the paragraph was (the school openness on the community through the parents) and from (3.52) at its lowest, the paragraph (reinforcement and the stability of the accepted

behaviors for the community and develop them to the best through training events)

And this is due to the partnership of the local community to make school projects based on the actual needs of the school, which reinforce the communication with the local community to support the educational process, and engage the information technology in the educational process to increase motivation in order to the actual achievement for the projects to document them and raising competition among all the participated teams. To develop decision making in the situations which the learners face when the school opening on the local community in collaboration with parents and reinforcement and the stability of the accepted behaviors for the community and develop them to the best through training events in order to make the school a radiation center of the surrounding environment to take advantage of its facilities as a learning and teaching centers.

The interest in developing the relation between the school and the community comes from the framework of the concurrent functional relation, the fact that the school is a product for the social, economical, intellectual, and cultural environment for its community, and the school is the natural incubator for individuals who through school form their identity, develop their skills and experiences to become after graduation factors in building and modernization of the communities where they grew up.

Based on that the nature of community determines the dimensions of the educational process, the expected role for the school needs preparation for the individuals to practice their future roles through discovering their interests and their abilities according to what suits the community needs. Through this process everything that the student learn converts from information, experiences, and skills to cognitive balance helps him not only in practicing his role in community ,but also helps him in understanding the nature of the social and cultural system and the role that could be played by him on the local and global level.

**The results and discussion related to the second question: Are there any differences with statistic significance on the significance level ( $\alpha > 0.05$ ) in the visualizing of the exploratory schools teachers in the capital Amman for the concept of the community school from their perspective that is attributed to the**

**variables of sex, experience, and qualifications?**

And to answer this question averages and standard deviations were calculated for the responses of the members of the sample, the following table (4) shows it:

**Table (4)**  
**Averages and standard deviations for the visualization of the Discovery Schools teachers in the capital Amman for the community school concept according to the variables of: gender, qualification, and experience**

Variable	Categories	Number	Average	Standard deviation
Gender	Male	127	3.77	0.680
	Female	215	3.68	0.766
	Total	342	3.71	0.736
Qualification	Academy	38	3.60	0.611
	Bachelor	213	3.68	0.272
	Bachelor and Diploma	44	3.89	0.681
	Master	44	3.77	0.722
	Doctorate	3	3.79	0.321
	Total	342	3.71	0.736
Experience	1-5	109	3.73	0.575
	5-10	79	3.53	0.978
	10	154	3.79	0.677

	Total	342	3.71	0.736
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It is clear from the previous table that there is a apparent differences between averages for the levels of the variables of the study , and to know if those differences between the averages are statistically significant a test was conducted, the four-way analysis of variance test ,of the impact of variables of gender, experience , and qualification. The following table (5) shows it:

**Table (5)**

**The result of the four-way analysis for the visualization of the Discovery Schools teachers in the capital Amman for the community school concept according to the variables of gender, qualification, and experience**

Variance source	Total square deviation	Degree of freedom	Squares average	F value	Significant level
Gender	0.260	1	0.260	0.491	0.484
Qualification	4.106	4	1.026	1.938	0.103
Experience	6.601	2	3.300	6.230	0.002
Error	336.380				
Total	348.308	341			

From the previous table (5) it is clear that there are no differences with statistic significance between the averages of the sample members in the virtualization of the Discovery School teachers in the capital Amman for the community school concept from their perspective according to the variables of gender and qualification.

The results also showed a differences with a statistic significance between the averages of the sample members in the virtualization of the Discovery School teachers in the capital Amman for the community school concept from their perspective according to the variable of experience which F value was (6.230), and to know in which levels of experience those differences occur Cheveh test for the posterior comparisons was conducted and table (6) shows it:

**Table (6)**

**Cheveh test for the posterior comparisons for the visualization of the Discovery Schools teachers in the capital Amman for the community school concept from their perspective according to the variable of experience**

Experience variable for the whole sample	Averages differences between variables (2*1)	Standard error	Significance level
1                      2			
1-5 * 5-10	0.195	0.078	0.046
1-5 * 10	- 0.63	0.066	0.635
1-5 * < 10	0.2579	0.073	0.002

It is clear from table (6) that the results of Cheveh test for the posterior comparisons, results showed that there is an impact with statistic significance between people with (1-5) years of experience and between people with (5-10) years of experience and there is no statically significance differences between people with 5-10 years of experience and people with 10 years of experience or more. And these differences came to the favor of people with 10 or more years of experience.

And this is attributed to their expos to multiple training courses which improved their leading skills and teamwork, and their ability to communicate skillfully with social leaders which reinforce their self confident to serve the local community and describe them as a valuable local leaders in working to make a change in the school environment. And meet the renewable needs for the educational process to raise the interaction between the student and the teacher and the purposeful communication with the local community. In Jordan, The Ministry Of Education is constantly keen to prepare teachers academically and behavioral

At pre-service and in-service regardless of their teaching experience, therefore they are looking to the necessity of establishing a positive relation between school and community.

**Recommendations:**

**Based on the study results, the researcher recommends the following:**

- 1-Held training courses for new administrators to give them the idea of the community school.
- 2- Publishing successes in outstanding community initiatives in the local and international schools.
- 3-Reinforce the communicating skills for workers in the school and some social leaders to reinforce their skills to engage information technology in the educational process.
- 4- Touch the actual needs of schools before starting to implement various community programs.

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