

Sharing of Resources – KPS Yaragatti

-By SSK Research Team

Introduction

Using the available resources to the optimum level requires efficient management and good resources handling capacities. Government institutions are often found stating about the resource crunch due to various reasons: from reduced budget allocation to reduced release of funds. KPS Yaragatti too faced resource crunch at various levels including physical infrastructure, human resources, academic facilities etc. The School realized that careful planning and assessment of the available resources can overcome the resource crunch and followed the resource sharing path diligently.



KPS Yargatti – Leading the Way for Resource Sharing

KPS Yargatti, located in Hukkeri taluk of Belagavi-Chikkodi educational district has pioneered the art of the resource sharing. This has been achieved only with careful planning and mutual co-ordination. The school has taken the advantage of the fact that all three division of the school are housed in a single school complex.

Problems Faced

Infrastructure: The annual maintenance grant given to a school is based on the strength of the students. For a school with considerable strength, maintaining all the

facilities with only annual grants can be difficult. On the one hand the school administration must look for funds which can be raised by other means, and on the other hand, the school management has to work on the resource sharing so that the students' development is not hampered. KPS Yaragatti had initiated resources sharing even before the notification of the school as KPS. The KPS banner, and constitution of the team of principal-vice principal-head master added the momentum to the sharing. In Principal Mr Chowgala's words "Resource sharing is very essential in every school, especially in government schools. The funds provided by the government for a school cannot be used extravagantly. We need to optimally use them. Buying one thing for a school and providing it to all levels is one option which we used. In this process we also must make sure that the equipment or the resource is handled carefully, and our teachers explain this to our students, and they handle carefully for it to be used for other students".

Sharing of Resources

The three different sections being in a single complex came as boon to KPS Yaragatti, as Mr Chowgala says. Resource sharing is mainly followed in the following areas

Physical infrastructure sharing

The school shares the laboratory facilities between secondary and senior secondary sections. Whenever necessary, primary section also utilizes the laboratory facility. The school has functional science lab, computer science lab, math lab and social science lab. The labs are used by all students.



The toilet structures are shared within different sections. The school has a single staff room with seating capacity for all teachers. Mr Ravindra N Netri , the vice principal says “having a single staff room has helped the school immensely. The teachers between different sections discuss their doubts whenever they arise. Single staff room also helps teachers to plan timetable and utilize the free hours from the timetable effectively. As some of our teachers teach in more than one section (primary,secondary and PUC), single classroom helps to coordinate better” The sports materials are also shared with all the sections.



Sharing of Human resources

With the notification of KPS, the school tried to come up with a common timetable and a common classroom with an aim of achieving overall school integration. This gave an opportunity to the teachers to understand the requirements and the need for teacher exchanges for different sections. In KPS Yaragatti, based on the need, pre university lecturers take occasional classes to high school for some subjects. It came as a pleasant surprise to the school authorities when Ms Shobha Khichadi nominated herself to teach spoken English language to pre-university students. Ms Shobha was recruited as a LKG teacher in KPS Yaragatti. Ms Shobha, not only has the qualification to teach PU students, but also has the interest and the hang of teaching older students effectively. Based on the trial class handled by her, Mr Chowgala says “Ms Shobha was very effective in handling the class and the students responded positively to her teaching”. Ms Shobha opined “teaching pre-university students was easier than expected. The students liked my teaching method and they were very enthusiastic in learning English”. Mr Raveendra, vice principal says, “we could utilize Ms Shobhas expertise only because we have a common staff room and every teacher interact with each other and solve the problems”. The common timetable has also helped the

school management to identify and allocate available and interested teachers to teach other classes.

Sharing of Financial Resources

It is important to identify areas and sections in the school which requires urgent attention in terms of spending limited financial resources received. To effectively spend the available funds, understanding among the school management and SDMC becomes critical. Post the KPS notification, majority of the school development decisions are encouraged to be taken at the school level. This responsibility is effectively handled in KPS Yaragatti. The school follows a standard procedure when the funds are received by any means: all KPS section heads, along with SDMC members call for a meeting. KPS Yaragatti has three SDMC's which is presided by Mr Husen A mulla, Mr Chandrashekar Patil and Mr Mallikarjun Nandaganvi in pre-university, high school and primary section respectively. In Mr Mullas words "KPS notification united all three SDMCs to work together for the development of this school. We have regular meetings to discuss the needs to every section and take decisions on financial spending on need. The other presidents also treat all three sections as equally important entities of the school". In SDMC meetings, the section is identified as to where the spending should be made, be it preprimary, primary, secondary or higher secondary, which requires the fund urgently. Post the discussion, a decision is made as to which section the funds will be spent. This decision is recorded, documented and signed by school heads and SDMC members to maintain accountability.

Bus Facility

One of the important decisions which the SDMC members collectively made is arranging the bus facilities, as the school heads say. Mr S A Sarikar, headmaster of the primary section states "providing bus facility to students increased the ease of access to our school. Our students come from around 20 nearby villages and some of them do not have regular bus facilities to and from the school. The bus facility arranged by SDMC members at a very nominal fee helps the parents as well as students. This has also helped in maintaining good attendance across all sections and particularly in

primary and high school section”.



The SDMC has played critical role in providing easy access to school.



Conclusion

Government schools receive limited resources for their perusal and effective planning in their utilization can overcome the problems faced at the school level. Sharing of these resources is one of the effective ways to optimally utilize the available

resources. KPS Yaragatti has internalized the maximum utilization of available resources in a planned way. The school shares physical infrastructure, human and financial resources in an effective manner.