



THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF BLOCK SCHEDULING AS PERCEIVED BY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

PhDc. Suat Kaya
Middle East Technical University
Department of Educational Sciences
Ankara- TURKEY
kayasuat2002@gmail.com

Prof. Dr. Meral Aksu
Middle East Technical University
Department of Educational Sciences
Ankara- TURKEY
aksume@metu.edu.tr

Abstract

Recently, the Turkish educational system has gone through a transition from the 8+4 educational model to the new 4+4+4 system, which has mandated elective courses to be taken by the students increasing number of class hours taken in a week from 30 to 37 hours. This has caused some problems in scheduling of schools in Turkey where double shift schooling is utilized in many schools due to some reasons. The purpose of this research was to examine perceptions of students regarding advantages of block scheduling. 240 students were selected through simple random sampling. The findings revealed that the block-scheduling had many advantages in terms of improvements in student-teacher relationship and teacher methodology, and some disadvantages in terms of attention span, concentration difficulty and basic needs. The perceptions of both the 5th grade students and the 8th grade students were similar regarding the advantages and disadvantages of the block scheduling.

Keywords: Block Scheduling, Student Perceptions, Middle School.