

Security Measures During the New Normal in University of Eastern Pangasinan

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BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Security refers to protection against potential harm and the implementation of measures that ensure safety, order, and controlled access within a particular place. In educational institutions, security is essential in maintaining a safe environment conducive to learning and development. School security measures include policies, personnel, equipment, and procedures designed to protect students, faculty, staff, and school property from threats and other security-related incidents.

According to Nguyen, Yuan, and McNeeley (2020), important aspects of school security include physical security measures such as security guards and surveillance cameras, as well as social school environment factors like adult support and fairness. These measures help regulate student behavior and maintain campus safety. Similarly, Mowen and Bragg (2021) emphasized that school security measures, such as identification systems, visitor check-ins, security personnel, and surveillance cameras, are intended to reduce victimization and improve the well-being of students and staff. Their study also highlighted that security and disciplinary practices significantly influence the overall school environment.

The implementation of school security measures became more critical during the COVID-19 pandemic. Educational institutions worldwide adopted health and safety protocols to prevent the spread of the virus. Tria (2020) explained that the pandemic created extraordinary challenges in the Philippine educational system, leading to the establishment of the “new normal” in education. Schools implemented various preventive measures such as mandatory face masks, social distancing, sanitation stations, and vaccination requirements to ensure the safety of students and employees.

Studies conducted in educational institutions during the pandemic revealed the importance of preparedness and safety compliance. Mina, Aydinan, Campos, and Aye-eo (2020) found that universities in Nueva Ecija needed to improve institutional practices related to personnel welfare and virus prevention. Their study recommended enhancement plans to strengthen health and safety measures without affecting school operations. Likewise, Pascua (2021) assessed the implementation of security systems in Cagayan State University-Piat Campus and concluded that school security measures were only moderately implemented. The study recommended strengthening physical security structures and improving compliance with safety standards.

In addition, Agaton and Cueto (2021) explored parents’ experiences with modular learning during the pandemic and identified challenges such as limited resources, technological difficulties, and stress-related concerns. These findings demonstrate that the pandemic affected not only instructional delivery but also the overall security and welfare of students and families. Furthermore, Asid (2022) emphasized the importance of sustaining effective online services and strengthening institutional support systems to address the changing educational environment during the new normal.

Several studies also examined the effectiveness of specific school security measures. Fisher, Higgins, and Homer (2021) investigated the use of security cameras in schools and found that while cameras are widely implemented, they did not significantly affect crime and punishment outcomes. In contrast, Tanner-Smith et al. (2018) noted that combining multiple visible security measures reduced the likelihood of exposure to school property crimes. These findings suggest that school security effectiveness depends on the proper integration and implementation of multiple strategies rather than relying on a single measure alone.

The University of Eastern Pangasinan recognizes the importance of school safety and security through its Security Department, which aims to ensure the protection of students, employees, and school property from security-related incidents and emergencies. Based on the Student Manual, the institution seeks to provide a safe learning environment through the implementation of security and safety services. However, despite existing guidelines and protocols, challenges in implementation may still arise during the new normal.

Given these circumstances, the researchers aim to assess the implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal at the University of Eastern Pangasinan. Specifically, the study seeks to determine the level of implementation of school security measures, identify the problems encountered by students and personnel, and propose measures that may enhance the implementation of school security guidelines within the institution.

Conceptual/Theoretical Framework of the Study

This study is anchored on the concept that security is essential in maintaining peace, order, and protection within educational institutions. School security is considered everybody's concern because it involves the collective responsibility of administrators, security personnel, faculty members, and students in ensuring a safe

The study is supported by General Strain Theory and Social Control Theory as discussed by Emily Bragg (2020). These theories explain how school security measures and students' perceptions of safety influence behavior and school participation. The study revealed that lower perceptions of safety and ineffective security measures are associated with higher risks of student disengagement and dropout. This suggests that effective school security measures contribute to a more positive and secure educational environment.

The study is also supported by Marxist Legal Theory, which explains that security serves as a mechanism for maintaining social order and protecting institutional structures. According to Rigakos (2020), security systems and policing are closely associated with maintaining order and responding to threats within society. In educational institutions, security measures such as surveillance systems, visitor management, and campus monitoring help maintain discipline and protect school stakeholders.

Another theory relevant to this study is the Protection Motivation Theory. According to Vetter (2022), individuals are more likely to follow security measures when they understand the risks and perceive protective actions as effective. Applied in the school setting, students and personnel are expected to comply with health and safety protocols during the new normal when they recognize the importance of these measures in preventing harm and ensuring campus safety.

Nguyen et al. (2020) further emphasized that school security measures, including monitoring systems, security personnel, and health protocols, are necessary in maintaining a secure educational environment. During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools implemented additional precautions such as wearing face masks, social distancing, sanitation procedures, and regular monitoring to minimize health risks and ensure safe school operations.

The paradigm of this study consists of three components: Input, Process, and Output. The Input includes the respondents' perceptions regarding the level of implementation of school security guidelines and the problems encountered during implementation. The Process involves securing permission to conduct the study, preparing and administering the survey questionnaire, gathering data, and analyzing the results. The Output of the study is the proposed measures to enhance the implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal at the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

INPUT	PROCESS	OUTPUT
Perception of respondents on the level of implementation of school security guidelines in University of Eastern Pangasinan	Asking permission to conduct study Formulation of Survey Questionnaire Administration of Survey Questionnaire Gathering of relevant	Proposed Measures to Enhance the Implementation of School Security Guidelines During

Problems encountered by the respondents in the implementation of school security guidelines in University of Eastern Pangasinan	information from different sources. Analysis and Interpretation of data	New Normal in University of Eastern Pangasinan
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Figure 1 Paradigm of the study

Statement of the Problem

This study was aimed to assess the security measures during the new normal at the University of Eastern Pangasinan

Specifically, it sought to answer the following questions;

1. What is the perception of the respondents on the level of implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal in the University of Eastern Pangasinan?
2. What are the problems encountered by the respondents in the implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal in the University of Eastern Pangasinan?
3. Is there a significant relationship between the level of implementation of school security guidelines and the problems encountered in the implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal in the University of Eastern Pangasinan?
4. What measures can be proposed to enhance the implementation of school security guidelines during new normal in the University of Eastern Pangasinan?

Hypothesis

This study was guided by the stated hypothesis at the 0.05 level of significance. Ho: There is no significant relationship between the perceptions of the respondents on the level of implementation and the problems encountered in the implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal at the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

Scope and Delimitation

This study focused on the assessment of security measures during the new normal at the University of Eastern Pangasinan. The purpose of this study is to determine the level of implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal, the problems encountered in the implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal, and the measures that can be proposed to enhance the implementation of school security guidelines. The respondents are criminology students and personnel of the University of Eastern Pangasinan during the academic year 2022-2023. The researchers asked permission from their respective departments to conduct the study. They formulated survey questionnaires and administered them to the participants. Additional information from reliable sources were also taken into consideration. Lastly, the data gathered, were analyzed and interpreted to achieve the main objective.

METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the research design, the respondents and locale of the study, the data gathering instrument, the data gathering procedure, and the treatment of data.

Research Design

This study used a quantitative research approach. The process of collecting and analyzing numerical data is known as quantitative analysis. It can be used to discover patterns and averages, make predictions, test causal

relationships, and generalize results to larger populations (Bhandari, 2020). The quantitative method was utilized to achieve the main objective of the study, which is to propose an enhancement in the implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal in the University of Eastern Pangasinan. This study employed the descriptive method of research with a descriptive-correlational design as it used to determine the significant relationships between the variables provided.

This method is commonly used in conducting research by describing its procedures, requirements, and problems through observation and gathering of data. In the descriptive method, researchers were able to define the needs of the study and develop the structure of the study that serves as a foundation throughout the research. Also, the descriptive method of research is a fact finding study leading to adequate and accurate interpretation of findings which is why it is the most appropriate design used in this study (Cameron 2002).

Population and Locale of the Study

The research was conducted at the University of Eastern Pangasinan, Binalonan, Pangasinan. The respondents of this study were criminology students and school personnel. The total population of the criminology students is identified to be 1,790, and from that, 317 are taken a sample, while the personnel had a total population of 205, and 134 were taken as samples. The researchers used a sample size calculator which was based on the Lynch formula and stratified random sampling in determining the number of respondents per stratum. Stratified sampling is a type of random sampling method that divides a population group into one or more distinct units called strata. This type of sampling was used to ensure that the samples from each group were proportionate to each other.

Table 1 Distribution of Respondents by Year Level Criminology students Population Respondents

First year	885	157
Second Year	482	85
Third Year	199	35
Fourth Year	224	40
Total	1,790	317

Table 2 below indicates the percentage of school personnel who were selected as respondents in the study.

Table 2 Percentage of School Personnel

Criminology Personnel	Population	Respondents
Academic and Administrative	16	11
Non-Teaching Staff	20	13
Job-Order Employee	14	9
Faculty Member	155	101
Total	205	134

Data Gathering Tool

The instrument to be used in this study to obtain the data needed was survey questionnaire. Part I covers the level of implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal at the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

The responses of the respondents for the first part were measured using the 4-Point Likert Scale described below:

Scale	Range/Limits	Verbal Interpretation
4	3.26 - 4.00	Strongly Implemented
3	2.51 - 3.25	Implemented
2	1.76 - 2.50	Slightly Implemented
1	1.00 - 1.75	Less Implemented

Part II covers the problems encountered in the implementation of school security guidelines during the new normal at the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

The responses of the respondents for the second part were measured using the 4- Point Likert Scale described below:

Scale	Range/Limits	Verbal Interpretation
4	3.26 - 4.00	Highly Serious
3	2.51 - 3.25	Serious
2	1.76 - 2.50	Moderately Serious
1	1.00 - 1.75	Less Serious

Validity and Reliability of Instrument

The questionnaire was formulated based on library research and unstructured interview. Furthermore, the contents of the questionnaire was validated by three (3) panels who have expertise in the related field of the study.

Data Gathering Procedure

To obtain data needed in this study, the researchers secured permission from the office of the University Registrar to obtain the number of criminology students officially enrolled in the College of Criminal Justice Education and the number of school personnel.

Then, the researchers asked permission from the Vice President for Administration and Program Head of the Criminology department to allow the researchers to float the questionnaires. The researchers also provided a letter of request to the respondents to administer the questionnaire.

Statistical Treatment of Data

The appropriate investigation and interpretation of statistical relationships of the data gathered were dependent on the following statistical methods;

Weighted Mean

This was used when not all values in the data are equally represented. This paper is used to measure the average response of the respondents.

Formula:

$$\bar{x}_W = \frac{\Sigma(fx_1 + fx_2 + fx_3 + \dots + fx_k)}{n_1 + n_2 + n_3 + \dots + n_k}$$

Where:

= symbol for weighted mean $f_1 + f_2 + f_3 + \dots + f_k$ = weight of responses in each of the questions being considered

$n_1 + n_2 + n_3 + \dots + n_k$ = a total number of observations

Spearman Rho Correlation

Spearman rho correlation is used to test relationships for data that are not normally distributed. This was used to test the relationship between the perception of the respondents on the level of implementation and problems encountered in the implementation of school security guidelines at the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

Formula:

$$r_R = 1 - \frac{6\Sigma_i d_i^2}{n(n^2 - 1)}$$

Where:

n= number of data points of the two variables

d_i = difference in ranks of the “ith” element.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This chapter presents and analyzes the data gathered from the respondents of the study. Statistical analysis and computation was used to interpret the results and aimed to answer every section of the statement of the problem.

Perception of Respondents on the Level of Implementation of School Security

Guidelines in University of Eastern Pangasinan

School security guidelines is a reasonable security-related policies, standards, and practices commensurate with the size and complexity of schools. It is also implemented with the primary aim of preventing, reducing the risk and/or responding to any violence or other criminal activity or disorder committed in connection with the different activities, inside and out of the school.

Table 1 shows the perception of the respondents on the level of implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan. Based on the results, the perception of the students and personnel on the level of implementation of school security guidelines obtained an overall weighted mean of 3.20, interpreted as Implemented.

It indicates that the school security guidelines are implemented at the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

In accordance with this, the weighted mean on the perception of the students on the level of implementation of school security guidelines at the University of Eastern Pangasinan was 3.28 interpreted as strongly implemented. This implies that the students are aware that the school security guidelines are strongly implemented in the university, while the weighted mean on the perception of the personnel on the level of implementation of school

security guidelines at the University of Eastern Pangasinan was 3.13, interpreted as implemented. This implies that the personnel observed the school security guidelines are only implemented.

Table 1

	Students	VI	Personnel	VI	AWM	VI
1. Strictly implements the wearing of facemasks to students and school personnel	3.71	SI	3.43	SI	3.57	SI
2. Strictly implements the waearing of school IDs and vaccination cards For students and school personnel.	3.38	SI	3.25	I	3.31	SI
3. Security personnel implements the log-in and logs out with a temperature check of students and school personnel.	3.26	SI	3.26	SI	3.26	SI
4. Strictly implement no vaccination card, no entry.	2.99	I	3.02	I	3.01	I
5. Monitor the social distancing of students and school personnel.	3.23	I	3.08	I	3.15	I
6. Provide sanitation at the entrance and exit inside the University.	3.34	SI	3.14	I	3.24	I
7. Conduct roving inspection and patrolling inside the university and premises of the campus.	3.29	SI	3.10	I	3.20	I
8. Report untoward incidents and observations about the violations of students in safety protocols.	3.34	SI	3.17	I	3.25	I
9. Check emergency equipment if they are in the proper location and condition.	3.42	SI	3.13	I	3.27	SI
10. Conduct inspection for vehicle deliveries, bodily searches, luggage, baggage, bags, and parcels.	3.17	I	3.07	I	3.12	I
11. Prevent access to intruders.	3.15	I	2.96	I	3.05	I
12. Implementation of evacuation Procedures during emergencies.	3.32	SI	3.12	I	3.22	I
13. Conduct security orientation for students and employees.	3.27	SI	2.99	I	3.13	I
14. Installation of CCTV cameras inside and Outside the University.	3.16	I	3.07	I	3.12	I
15. Locks changed immediately upon loss or stealing of keys.	3.17	I	3.16	I	3.20	I
OVERALL WEIGHTED MEAN	3.28	SI	3.13	I	3.20	I

Legend 3.26-4.00 Strongly Implemented (SI), 2.51-3.25 Implemented (I), 1.76-2.50 Slightly Implemented (SLI), 1.00-1.75 Less Implemented (LI)

According to Emily Tanner-Smith et. al (2018), in response to continued concerns over untoward incidents, schools are increasingly employing visible security measures such as cameras, metal detectors, and security personnel. These security measures are not mutually exclusive, but few studies have considered the use of

multiple forms of security in schools, to address this issue, we need to analyze the national representative of school administrator reported data from the School Survey on Crime & Safety. The results indicated that utilization of multiple security measures reduced the likelihood of exposure to property crime in schools, the findings provide guidance to policymakers in considering whether to use or expand visible school security measures in schools.

Resultsshowed thatthe highestweightedmean on the perception ofthe respondents on the level of implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan was the wearing of facemasks by students and personnel with 3.57, interpreted as strongly implemented. This implies that wearing of facemask is strongly implemented in the school security guidelines of the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

According to Sammy Militante et. al (2020), wearing of facemask that covers the nose and mouth in a public setting and repeatedly cleansing of hands or the use of at least 70% alcohol-based disinfectants is a practice to avoid virus exposure. The study uses deep learning techniques to identify if the person is wearing a facemask or not and check if the persons in the area observe physical distancing. The developed system is implemented using Python and OpenCV through TensorFlow that recognizes persons wearing a facemask or not wearing and measures the physical distance between each person. It signals an alarm and captures facial images upon detecting persons not wearing a mask and does not observe physical distancing. The study is beneficial in combating the spread of the virus and avoiding contact with the virus.

It is followed by the wearing of school IDs and vaccination cards for students and school personnel with a weighted mean of 3.31, interpreted as strongly implemented. It implies that wearing school IDs and vaccination cards are strongly implemented in the school security guidelines of the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

According to the study of Ian Benitez et. al (2021), wearing of Electronic ID systems in educational institutions had advanced technology and are used for integration to other information systems. To utilize this advantage, an automated generation and management of ID cards was developed. An enhancement had carried out to improve the system's capabilities. Data was gathered using interviews, process observations, and questionnaire. The results revealed that the new system significantly improved in terms of efficiency, functionality, reliability, but had not achieved significant improvement in usability, particularly, on the user interface.

Conducting security orientation for students and employees was also one with the highest weighted mean with 3.27, interpreted as strongly implemented. This implies that the University of Eastern Pangasinan strongly implements security orientation for students and employees as part of the school security guidelines.

According to E. Sventekova et. Al of University of Zilina (2019), the current security situation shows the society inevitably needs to overcome the contemporary threats more effectively. It needs the university-educated security and safety experts who have mastered the methods of solving the crisis events and are able to utilise them in practice, who are able to identify, analyse and assess the risks in various environments, manage the preventive activities as well as inadequate responds to the crisis phenomena and reduce or eliminate their negative effects on people, material values and the environment.

The lowest weighted mean on the perception of the respondents on the level of implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan was the implementation of "no vaccination card, no entry" with 3.01, interpreted as implemented. This implies that the students and personnel may still enter the university without vaccination cards possibly under some acceptable circumstances as it is only implemented based on the results.

According to Susan Wolf et. al (2020), from the start of the pandemic to May 26, 2021, large number of COVID-19 cases were linked to colleges and universities. Now, to protect their populations and surrounding communities, IHE administrators are increasingly considering COVID-19 vaccine requirements. The colleges and university campuses have announced COVID-19 vaccine mandates for students or employees. However, deciding to require vaccination is only the first of multiple decisions, as IHEs face complex issues of how to design and refine their mandates, including whether to require boosters. Mandates vary significantly in stringency, implementation, impact on members of the college or university community, and net benefit to the

institution Another low weighted mean on the perception of the respondents on the level of implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan was recorded on the prevention of access from intruders with 3.05, interpreted as implemented. This implies that intruders may still enter the premises since the school security guidelines only implement this kind of situation.

According to Janalee Olhausen-Kaylor of Lindenwood University (2019), three out of 10 parents fear for their students' safety while attending classes within the public school setting (McCarthy, 2015). The study focused on two elements that directly affect safety within schools; visitor management and intruder prevention. To analyze each of these two elements, qualitative methodology was utilized through four focus groups to determine the perceptions of school administrators, parents, and school resource officers on school safety. After conducting multiple interviews, four common themes emerged. The first theme was monitoring access to school buildings. Participants asserted taking an active approach in this area would increase the overall safety of students. The second theme discussed by multiple participants was to take additional measures to make the entrances of school buildings secure. The third theme that emerged was the importance of the role of the school resource officer. The fourth and final theme that developed was the importance of training and communication for administrators, school resource officers, staff, students, parents, and community members.

The school security guidelines also had a low weighted mean on conducting inspections for vehicle deliveries, bodily searches, luggage, baggage, bags, and parcels with 3.12, interpreted as implemented. This implies that harmful objects or substances are still likely enter entered the school premises.

According to Luis Miguel Martín-delosReyes et. al (2021), the systematic review was conducted to determine the effect of periodic motor vehicle inspections on road crashes and injuries, compared to less exposure to periodic inspections or no inspections. Due to the heterogeneity of the designs and the intervention or comparison groups used, quantitative synthesis of the results was not attempted. Except for the case-control study, which showed a significant association between road crashes and the absence of a valid vehicle inspection certificate, the other studies showed either a small reduction in crash rates (around 9%), no association, or a higher crash rate in vehicles with more inspections.

Lastly, the installation of CCTV cameras inside and outside the university had a low weighted mean of 3.12, interpreted as implemented. This implies that safety and security inside and outside the university premises may have spots that are not supported by CCTV cameras.

According to the study of Sean Kenneth Aballe et. al (2022) Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) camera had recently become an indispensable part of daily life. Cameras are vital importance as significant elements of security systems in different buildings and establishments such as houses, stores, shopping malls and schools. Effectiveness of the installation of CCTV cameras in relation to crime prevention was conducted to universities, crimes against person and crimes against properties and to propose an action-based plan. The study revealed that the installation of CCTV cameras was very effective in crime prevention as it monitors and records the scenes 24/7 that can help in solving any reported crimes such as theft robbery incident and so on.

Problems Encountered by the Respondents in the Implementation of School Security

Guidelines in University of Eastern Pangasinan

School safety and security had become a topical issue internationally that concerns both educational research and policy. Several studies have focused on technical safety, less attention has been given to comprehensive safety and security management (SSM) and policies enhancing schools' safety culture. Various development needs a planning, implementation and evaluation for safety and security work. On these bases, some study suggests that policies and guidelines need to improve both on the school and national levels. Particularly, special attention needs to be focused on the staff training, competence and comprehensiveness of safety and security management.

Table 2

	Students	VI	Personnel	VI	AWM	VI
1. Lack of hand sanitizer area.	2.89	S	2.30	MS	2.60	S
2. Improper usage of facemasks and face shields.	2.76	S	2.19	MS	2.48	MS
3. Lack of signage about safety protocols or guidelines.	2.72	S	2.08	MS	2.40	MS
4. Using an invalid vaccination card.	2.60	S	1.93	MS	2.27	MS
5. Lack of medical staff.	2.66	S	2.07	MS	2.37	MS
6. Lack of security personnel.	2.66	S	2.08	MS	2.37	MS
7. Lack of CCTV cameras in the University.	2.74	S	2.01	MS	2.38	MS
8. Lack of information dissemination about security during the new normal.	2.69	S	2.07	MS	2.38	MS
9. Lack of alarm or alarm system at the University.	2.71	S	1.99	MS	2.35	MS
10. Un-updated fire extinguisher.	2.67	S	1.96	MS	2.32	MS
11. Improperly installed door knobs in some classrooms.	2.69	S	1.98	MS	2.34	MS
12. Not functioning water resources like faucets.	2.70	S	2.02	MS	2.36	MS
13. Lack of proper ventillation inside the classroom.	2.75	S	2.02	MS	2.39	MS
14. Lack of designation of parking areas.	2.71	S	1.98	MS	2.35	MS
15. Lack of floor plan sketches on every floor.	2.76	S	1.93	MS	2.35	MS
OVERALL WEIGHTED MEAN	2.72	S	2.04	MS	2.38	MS

Legend: 3.26-4.00 Highly Serious (HS), 2.51-3.25 Serious (S), 2.51-3.25 Moderately Serious (MS), 1.00-1.75 Less Serious (LS)

Table 2 shows the problems that the respondents encountered in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan. Based on the results, the overall weighted mean of problems encountered by both students and personnel in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan was 2.38, interpreted as moderately serious. This implies that the problems that the respondents encountered in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan are only moderately serious.

In line with this, the weighted mean on the problems encountered by the students in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan was 2.72, interpreted as serious. This implies that the students have encountered serious problems in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan, while the personnel have a weighted mean of 2.04, interpreted as moderately serious, which implies that the personnel had encountered only moderately serious problems in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

According to Elliot Mbunge et. al (2021), Zimbabwe is among the countries affected with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and implemented several infection control and measures such as social distancing, contact tracing, regular temperature checking in strategic entry and exit points, face masking among others. They also implemented recursive national lockdowns and curfews to reduce the virus transmission rate and its catastrophic

impact. Several emerging technologies have been adopted to strengthen the health system and health services delivery, improve compliance, adherence and maintain social distancing. These technologies use health data, symptoms monitoring, mobility, location and proximity data for contact tracing, self-isolation, and quarantine compliance.

The highest recorded weighted mean on the problems encountered by the respondents on the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan was the lack of hand sanitizers in sanitation areas with 2.60, interpreted as serious. This implies that there is a serious problem with the lack of hand sanitizers in sanitation areas.

According to the study of Dahlia Margareth et. al (2022), During the COVID-19 pandemic, the access to sanitation is an important part of preventing COVID-19. Poor sanitation in the schools or even in the house of a particular family has the potential to cause the spread of disease. Literally, the purpose of this study was to describe the access of the people to sanitation in schools and households specifically in densely populated residential areas. People on the said densely populated settlements have access to clean water that meets the requirements of clean water for use in their daily life, however, the community had not fully provided hand washing facilities that meet standards, such as not equipped with soap and not having posters of information on how to wash the hands properly. Now as a conclusion, access to sanitation in densely populated settlements had not been maximally fulfilled, it is necessary to improve the quality of sanitation facilities in the schools and household level.

Another problem that was encountered by the respondents with a high weighted mean was the improper usage of facemasks and face shields with 2.48, interpreted as moderately serious. This implies that there is a moderately serious problem with the proper wearing of face masks and face shields.

According to the study of Yulia Kungurova et. al (2020), proper wearing of face mask in the COVID-19 pandemic was previously hypothesized as a protective symbol that decreases compliance with other measures such as face touching and social distancing. On this study, we looked at the shift of guidelines regarding mask use and the mask-wearing adherence habits of the people during the pandemic. We noted that 49.31% had medicalgrade masks (N95 and surgical), 36.11% had improvised masks, and 14.74% had no facial covering. About 34% of persons with masks were not correctly covering their nose or mouth and 16.45% were touching their face with their hands. The highest proportion of errors was seen in wearers of surgical masks, leaving the mouth/nose uncovered at 12.08% of all errors.

It is then followed by the lack of signage about safety protocols or guidelines on the school premises with a high weighted mean of 2.40, interpreted as moderately serious.

This implies that there is a moderately serious problem with the lack of signage about safety protocols and guidelines.

Based on the pd signs website (2020), it is important to take all the necessary signages about safety protocols to guide and protect the staff and students from viruses. In addition, pupils and staff should perform hand hygiene, before eating or drinking; after using the toilet; after playing outdoors; when their hands are physically dirty; and most especially when they cough or sneeze. Hand sanitizer dispensers can be positioned more readily at entry and exit points of schools and classrooms. Schools should also promote good hygiene and display posters throughout the schools on how to wash the hands propely. Also, we should have a wide range of social distancing signage, handwashing signage, stencils and hand sanitizer dispensers to choose from.

Meanwhile, the lowest weighted mean on the problems encountered by the respondents on the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan was the use of an invalid vaccination card with 2.27, interpreted as moderately serious. This implies that there is a moderately serious problem with using an invalid vaccination card as some students might use it to enter the university.

According to Yingxiao Liu et. al (2020), a COVID-19 Vaccination card is designed by the Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and issued to people who get vaccinated as a personal record. Now, as face to face begin to

reopen, students need proof of vaccination card before entering on campuses. Organizations and companies also require their employees and customers to upload a picture of the card to their online system so as to get full access to the facilities and in-person activities. In addition, a complete vaccination card shows what COVID-19 vaccine a recipient received, as well as the date and where the recipient received it. While it's not a legal document, more and more policies require it as a proof of being vaccinated. Also, the CDC recommends recipients to not only keep the card for future use but also save a picture of the card as a backup copy.

Next is the un-updated fire extinguishers with a weighted mean of 2.32, interpreted as moderately serious. This implies that there is a moderately serious problem with outdated fire extinguishers, especially during emergency situations.

According to Sitrapee Changmuenwai et. al of Kasetsart University (2021), It is important that a fire extinguisher must be inspected for its readiness. For each inspection, the inspectors need to turn the fire extinguisher tank upside down to let the chemical inside the tank move and prevent solidification which would make the tank not ready for usage when needed. In addition, the inspectors have to turn each tank upside down twice (2 minutes/round). They also need to turn the tanks over their shoulder close to their ear in order to hear the chemical flow inside the tank, or use their hands.

Faulty doorknobs or improper installation of doorknobs was also one of the lowest recorded problems that was encountered by the respondents. It has a weighted mean of 3.34, interpreted as moderately serious. It implies that there is a moderately serious problem that was encountered with improper installation of doorknobs, and it is very important during emergency situations as well.

According to the study of Mohit Kumar et. al (About Door Knob Security) (2022), doors are locked with keys whether computerized keys or manmade locks, but their key unlocking system is vulnerable as keys can be lost or stolen and might be duplicated. Now, the proposed methodology works using the Morse code that is delivered to the person standing outside the door to get in. The Morse code is generated randomly from software, so the code cannot be duplicated. Artificial Intelligence will be added so that the doorknob mechanism will not work if any one member is already inside. The mechanism will be made accessible, remotely, in case the owner allows someone, but the owner is not present there at that moment.

Relationship Between the Perceptions of the Respondents on the Level of Implementation and Problems Encountered in the Implementation of School Security Guidelines in the University Of Eastern Pangasinan

School crime is a vital concern, not only for students and faculty, but for administrators, policy makers, criminal justice personnel, and concerned citizens. Efforts to reduce crime and violence at schools have led many schools to adopt preventative strategies aimed at reducing actual crime and fear of crime. These measures include partnering with local police departments and implementing school resource officers, installing video cameras and closed-circuit television systems, utilizing weapon-detection systems and blocking/restricting access to school facilities with entry-control devices. Recognizing these efforts and the limitations of prior research investigating school crime and safety measures, the current study examined the relationship between law enforcement and school security measures on the incidence of violence and serious violence in schools using a nationally representative sample.

Table 3

Variables	Correlation Coefficient (r_s)	Effect Size	P-value	Decision	Interpretation
Level of Implementat-ion and Problems Encountered	.744	Strong	.001	Reject Ho	Significant Relationship

Legend: .00-.19 “Very Weak”, .20-.39 “Weak”, .40-.59 “Moderate”, .60-.79 “Strong”, .80-1.0 “Very Strong”
 Correlation is significant at p-value < 0.05

Table 3 shows the relationship between the perceptions of the respondents on the level of implementation and problems encountered in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan. The researchers conducted a normality test to check if the data falls under the normal distribution. The results showed that the data for problems encountered by the respondents is not normally distributed; thus a non-parametric test was used. Spearman Rho is the non-parametric counterpart of Pearson's R correlation which determines if there is a relationship between two variables.

The results revealed that the level of implementation and problems encountered by the respondents in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan showed a strong relationship ($r_s = .744$). The p-value also resulted in .001 which is greater than the alpha level of 0.05. This implies that we will reject the null hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the level of implementation and problems encountered by the respondents in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan, and consider the relationship between the two variables to be significant. This implies that there is sufficient evidence to conclude that level of implementation and problems encountered by the respondents in the implementation of school security guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan have a statistically significant correlation.

According to the study of Marieli Cherry Catacio Cipres (2022), examining the school security measures implemented to a different Universities is very important. That is why this study employed to elicit information on the nature of school security practices on the aspects of human, physical, technological/electronic security practices as well as from the recent Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Department of Health (DOH) Minimum Public Health standards as adapted from CHED-DOH Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2021-004. Furthermore, security measures includes monitoring of school gates and exits, use of metal detectors and presence of security officers, as well as the emergency/crisis preparedness of the institutions. Now, the results revealed that the Institution implemented some security measures on various aspects like infrastructure/physical security, and personnel/human security practices. Moreover, the recent traumatic experience of the employees of the school from a disaster affecting the region, more security personnel, including student and school employees were recommended to be trained to equip them to handle any future and similar crisis/emergency situations like COVID-19.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The findings of the study are summarized as follows:

Perception of the Respondents on the Level of Implementation of School Security Guidelines. Based on the results, the students believe that the school security guidelines are strongly implemented with an overall weighted mean rating of = 3.28, while the school personnel believes that the school security guidelines are implemented with an overall weighted mean rating of = 3.13. Problems Encountered by the Respondents in the Implementation of School Security Guidelines. The students' responses showed that they have encountered serious (= 2.72) problems in the implementation of school security guidelines while the school personnel's responses showed that they have encountered only moderately serious (= 2.04) problems in the implementation of school security guidelines. Relationship between the Respondent's Level of Implementation of School Security Guidelines and Problems Encountered. The respondents', both students and school personnel, level of implementation of school security guidelines and problems encountered showed a strong significant relationship ($r = .769$, $p = .001 < 0.05$) and ($r_s = .658$, $p = .008 < 0.05$) respectively.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents the conclusions and recommendations made in the study.

Conclusions

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

The Level of Implementation of School Security Guidelines in University of Eastern Pangasinan as perceived by respondents was implemented.

The Problems Encountered by the Respondents in the Implementation of School Security Guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan as perceived by respondents was Moderately Serious.

There is significant relationship between the Perceptions of the Respondents on the Level of Implementation and Problems Encountered in the Implementation of School Security Guidelines in the University Of Eastern Pangasinan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and conclusions presented, the following recommendations are suggested:

To further enhance the security measures, school administration must revisit plans and programs to be implemented;

The school must undergo training on Basic Occupational Health Safety (BOHS) to enhanced the qualification as a security provider;

The school must intensify implementation of security measures to all students and employees;

The researchers recommend that the findings of this study should be disseminated to the students and to security personnel to sustain efforts in maintaining the implementation of School Security Guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan;.

Further research should be conducted in the implementation of School Security Guidelines in the University of Eastern Pangasinan.

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