THE STRUCTURAL AND FUNCTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS OF SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEES: A CASE OF TWO HIGH SCHOOLS IN SHAMAVUNGA CIRCUIT, MOPANI DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

by

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Submitted in fulfillment of the requirements of

MASTER OF EDUCATION

in the

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MANAGEMENT
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

at the

UNIVERSITY OF VENDA

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2015

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ABSTRACT

This study sought to explore how discipline as a way of enhancing effective teaching was maintained by the School Disciplinary Committees (SDCs) at the two selected secondary schools of Shamavunga Circuit, Mopani District in Limpopo Province. The study aimed at exploring the functional and structural effectiveness of the School Disciplinary Committees (SDCs) in Shamavunga Circuit. This study pursued the views of the key stakeholders in school discipline namely: School Governing Bodies (SGBs), School Management Team (SMTs), School Disciplinary Committees (SDCs), Class teachers, Representative Council of Learners (RCLs) and Previously Disciplined Learners (PDLs). In this study the challenges encountered by the SDCs while executing their duties at the two schools were established and the suggested models to improve the working of the SDCs were proposed.

The study reviewed literature on the theoretical framework of the study. This study was underpinned by the situated learning theory. Models in school discipline linked to maintaining school discipline were also reviewed in this study. Existing literature related to this study revealed that various strategies to maintain school discipline have been applied worldwide. It was imperative in the current study to look into the Structural and Functional effectiveness of the SDCs in the Shamavunga Circuit. The pedagogical history of maintaining school discipline in previous years up to the recent years worldwide was traced in this study. Focus in this study was mainly on exploring the structural and functional effectiveness of the SDCs in Shamavunga Circuit.

The study applied qualitative methodologies to gather information from SDCs and other key stakeholders in school discipline namely: five SGBs members, five SMTs, five SDCs from School A and four SDC members from School B, two class teachers, five RCL members and five PDLs were purposely selected to participate in the study. Data were