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MUNICIPAL EDUCATION COUNCIL (CME): CHALLENGES AND REFLECTIONS ON POPULAR PARTICIPATION IN THE CITY OF MAUÁ-SP

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ABSTRACT

This article is based on a qualitative study, supported by bibliographic and documentary research on the Municipal Education Council (CME) of the municipality of Mauá-SP and its contribution to the public authorities in decision-making in the educational sphere. The objective is to discuss aspects of the constitution and functioning of the Municipal Education Council (CME) of the municipality of Mauá-SP, a city that is part of the ABC region of São Paulo, metropolitan region of São Paulo-SP, and its role in municipal decisions about public education, as an important collegiate body, representing the democratization of educational management. The emphasis of the study is on the challenges faced by the CME of Mauá-SP in breaking the formal structure of collegiate bodies and expanding popular participation in decision-making together with the public authorities. Results: the city, like other Brazilian municipalities, faces the challenge of expanding the participation of popular segments in the elaboration of public educational policies and planning of goals that allow qualifying municipal educational systems. Democratic management, even though decreed in official documents, is still not effectively experienced in the municipality of Mauá-SP, as it is observed that civil participation happens in a timid way and needs to be continually encouraged by the Public Authorities.

Keywords: Municipal Education Council. Education. Democratic Management.