Evaluation Report

Pawan Public School, Paoni, Bhandara Dist.

Site Visit By: Akshita Vyas

Organization: Persistent Foundation, Persistent Systems Ltd, Nagpur

Date: 29th Sep'17 (Friday)

Time: 11am to 7.30pm (Total Travel time: 3.5 hrs/ Site Visit: 4.5hrs)

Objective:

To evaluate the present condition of Pawan Pubic School w.r.t guidelines shared by Asha Seattle.

Organization background:

Pawan Public school at Paoni was established in 1999. The school runs at a very old Municipal corporation building since then. There are 2 buildings of the school within the radius ok 1KM. The main old building is for Pre-primary and primary students, while the other building is for high school and junior college.

Medium of Education: English

Type of organization: Govt. recognized but not funded

Student strength and fees structure as on 2017-18 AY:

Class	No.of Students
Pre Primary (Nursery to KG II)	**202**
Primary (1st to 4th)	**242**
Middle School (5th to 7th)	**62**
High School (8th to 10th)	**20**
Junior college (10+2)	**104**
Total	**630**

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Key Highlights:

- The total strength of students in AY 2016-17 was 527 which increased to 630 in AY 2017-18 (Ref Picture No.5 & 6)
- 25% of students from 1st to 5th are covered under RTE from the past 4yrs
- 40% of students are sponsored through individual donors
- Rest are paying fees (there is a provision to pay fess in installments too)

Details about staff:

- 31 Teaching and 5 Non-Teaching staff
- 2 computer teachers joined this year
- The school conducts 15 days training session for the newly appointed teacher that comprises of teaching methods to be used. Focusing more on experiential learning.
- Minimum qualification of almost all the teachers is Graduation.
- There is provision of PF too for the teachers, where 13% is deducted through salary and 13% is contributed from the organization. There is annual increment in the salary too.
- Some teachers have been teaching here from about a decade which is a rare scene at non-govt school.
- The teachers were in a uniform dress code (Blue color saree). Which shows discipline, and professionalism that it's not only the students who have to be uniformed but the teachers too.

Geographical Location:

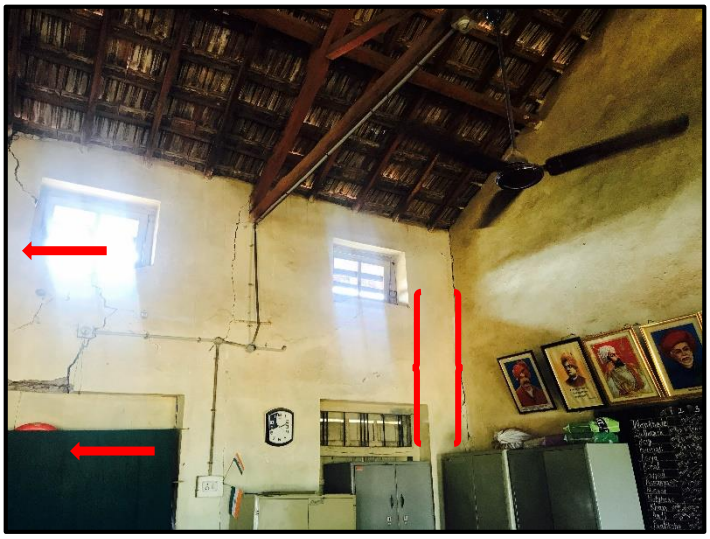
- The school is situated in the main area of Paoni, Paoni is a small town and a Municipal Council in Bhandara district, at a distance of 30km from Bhandara, situated at the bank of river Wainganga.
- Population: 36000 Approx as per the teachers.
- Type of occupation: Majority of the people in Paoni are into farming, labour work and jobs in local Govt bodies.

A) Details of Site visit with photographs: [*Red marks/arrows indicates problem]

1. **Entrance**: I was attended by the Principal Mrs. Wankhede and Ms. Preeti at the gate. Observation- The school is situated a little uphill near a big ground, a very old construction building, there is no gate at the entrance or anywhere at the boundary of school which is worrisome from security point of view.

2. **Office:** I was taken to the office at first, where I asked for the proposal copy and looked around to see the condition which was no good.

   The ceiling was made of Kavelu, The wall was cracked and had seepage problem that will worsen the condition with time.



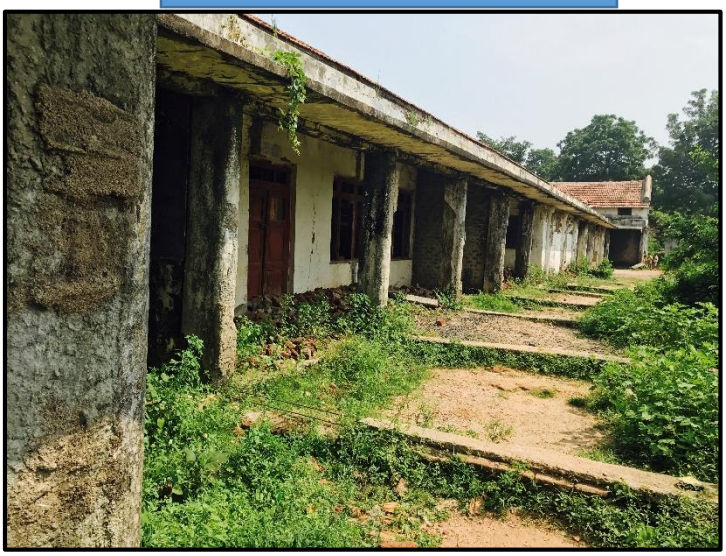
3. **Classroom visits:** We then started looking at the classroom and other facilities at the school. Starting with Pre primary. The total strength of students in pre primary is 200+. All classrooms have basic furniture i.e desk benches and play material but no proper storage space.

   The tube lights and fans were usually stolen by anti social elements due to an open area and acts as another expense for the organisation.

Pre Primary Classroom

Study Material for Pre Primary

Backside of primary classrooms



4. **Primary Classroom:** After pre primary we went to the primary classroom, where the teachers were teaching "Hindi Baarakhadi" using plastic alphabets. With the help of plastic alphabets students could feel every letter, which will help them in writing the same and improving reading writing habits. Meanwhile, I got a chance to interact with the kids and ask them which letter it is and if someone knows complete baarakhadi. A lot of kids raised hands, two of them attempted wrong but it was admirable they at least came forward. The class clapped for the student who said complete barakhadi.

5. **Toilet facility:** We then checked the toilets for boys and girls. As a typical old construction building, the toilet blocks were open without any door, again in the bushy area. A plastic tank was kept for water usage. From hygiene point of view it was a negative factor, but the teachers said, as it's a rented place they cannot construct anything.

   The girls toilet block was in a terrible condition too. One of the wall fell down 15 days back. Luckily, no casualties were there. There are no doors, no roof and only blocks. As a good practice, the teachers accompany the girls to the toilets to ensure safety.

   Both toilet blocks are in bad condition and the walls have cracks all over.

Boys Toilet

Girls Toilet

6. **The Playground:** Kids at primary education generally get exposure to a good play area that motivates them to come to school. As said by Principal, they want to setup swings, sliders, and many such playing stuff in the school ground, but due to no security there is a threat that it might be stolen! Hence, they are not able to upgrade it. However, in such case, kids became more innovative and played various games with whatever they had.

7. High School & Jr. College:

After completing visit at main building we went to see high school and Jr. college school. This was within 1km of radius of main building, situated in a Nursing college premises which is governed by the same organization.

The 9th std classroom was arranged at Nursing's practical room. There were 6 girls and 1 boy from 9th std who were attending Geography class. I excused from the teachers to have a personal discussion with the students, so that I know them better. I asked a few questions related to their chapter "Endogenic Movements" which they answered well. When I asked don't you need tuitions, they confidently said "No" "Hamari extra classes hoti hai yaha"(We have extra classes at school itself, we don't need tuition).

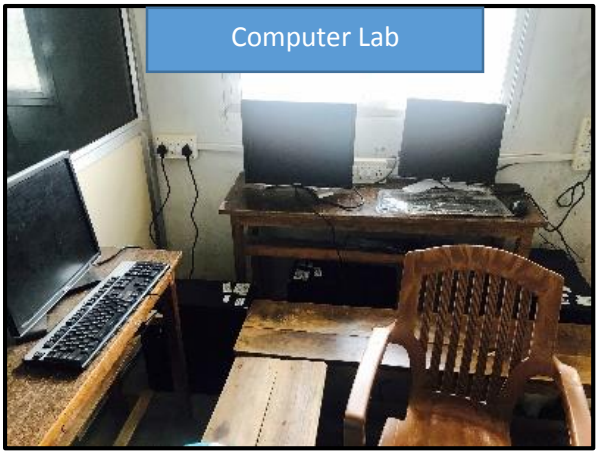
One thing I was sure of, the school strongly believes in quality of students and not mere quantity.

8. Class Xth:

We visited students of 10th std which had 8 boys and no girls. Their bilogy class was ongoing. I could see one microscope which is sufficient for class of 8 students. The existing computer lab is congested and have only 3 computers. The school tried making a computer lab and did electrification too but due to water leakage they couldn't continue the work.

10th Classroom

Computer Lab



9. Jr.College:

We then visited class 11th & 12th which was in the same premises. There was a good strength in both the classes. I had a personal discussion with class 11th students (With no teachers around). I asked students why they selected this college over others. They replied because the teaching is good, they don't wish to join any tuition classes and are confident to study and pass with good numbers. I didn't disturb class 12th students as there class was on going.

Talking about the construction again, I felt the corridors are too small, not even upto knee height and the passage turn towards stairs is dangerous. Though the students are grown up, this is risky.

Corriodor on 1st floor with blind turn towards stairs

10. Visit to proposed site:

Next, we went to the proposed site for construction which is 5km from the existing school. It's a farm land of approx. 6 acres where as of now rice is cultivated. From the entire land, approx. 2-3 acre is allotted to school. Adjacent to that site is Pratham Education Socirty's 'Science School' which was a treat to see at a remote place like Paoni! This is open to all schools and will be accessible to Pawan Public school for any lessons. This will be a great platform for experiential learning.

The new site is on a little interior side as compared to the existing one but has more than 12 villages nearby where there is no school. Hence, if Pawan Public school is relocated at the new place, it will benefit these villages along with the existing ones. However, as the site is in a remote place it will be good to have bus for commute as a safety precaution.

Proposed Land

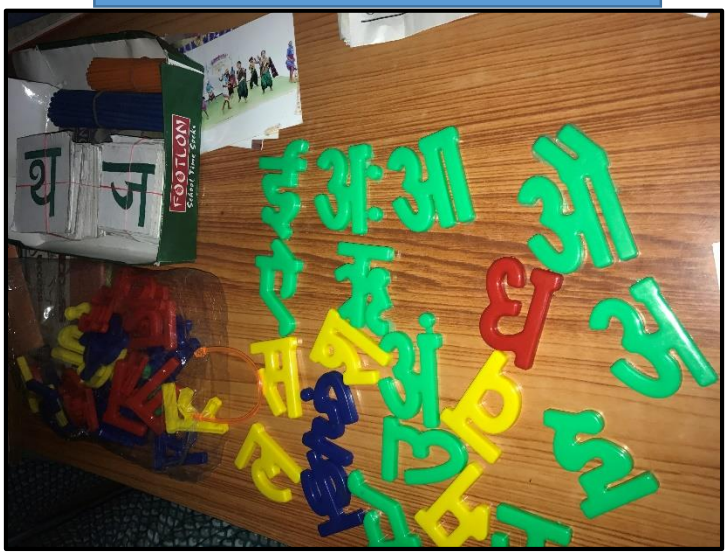
Pratham's Centre

An Inside view of Pratham's Centre

11. Teaching Techniques & Documentation:

Teaching: I am separately talking about these two things as it was very impressive. The dedication of teachers towards teaching and one moto "No Tuition" is worth admirable. The teachers teach with various techniques using plastic alphabets, charts, showing original objects like fruits and vegetables to the primary students and showing experiment videos to Jr.college students on mobile or laptop is a proof of the dedication they have to achieve their moto. Despite of not being well equipped the teachers find out innovative ways of teaching and the scholastic performance of 10th std students is a proof of that. The school achieves 100% result and on an average every students scores more than 80%, says the teacher.

Teaching Material used for Primary



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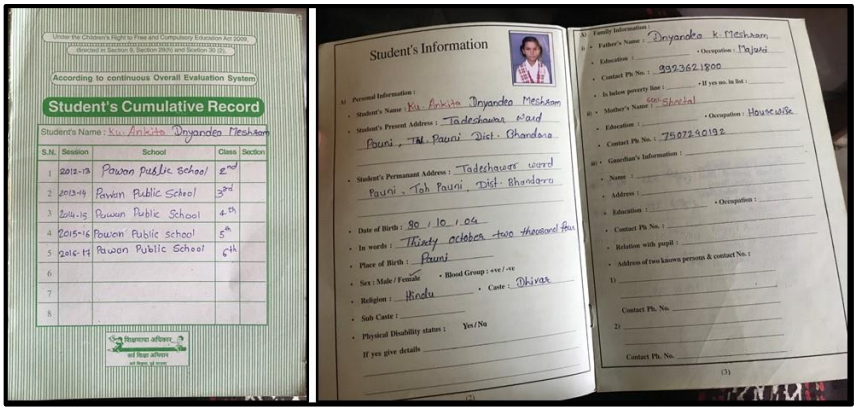
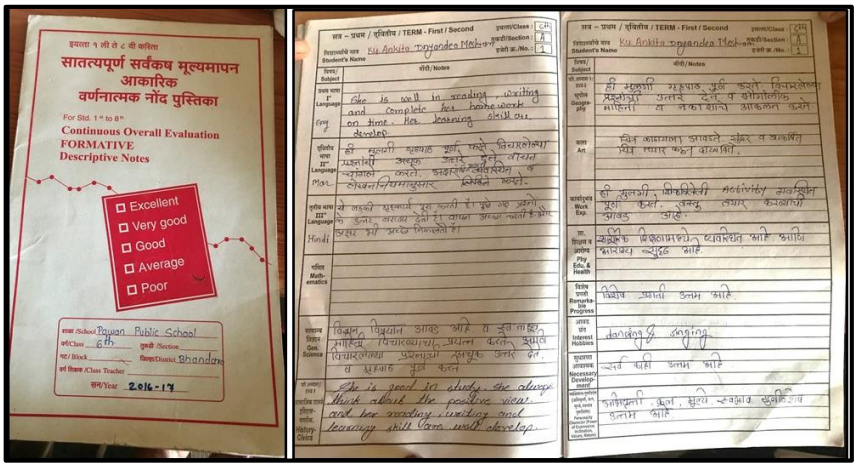
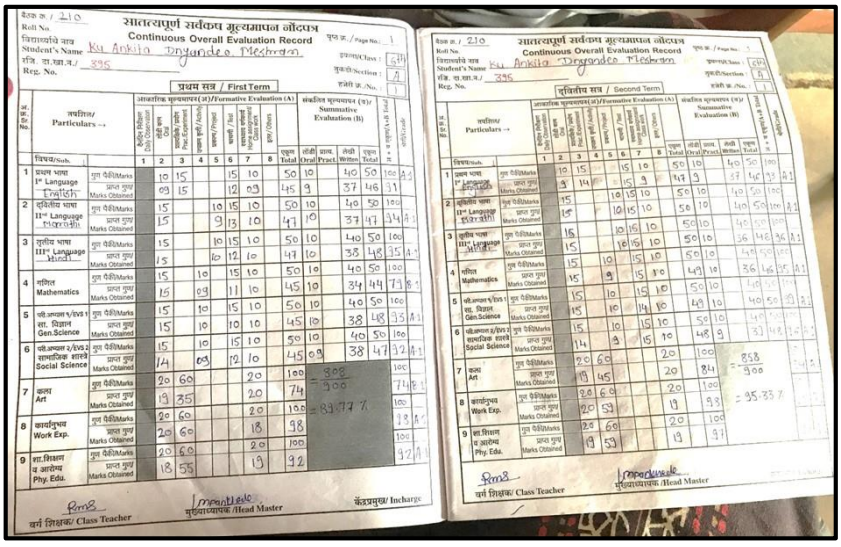
Documentation:

The teachers could present all the documents that were asked for in a jiffy! Audited reports, donors list, attendance register of students and teachers, details of programs undertaken every year, health checkup records, the track of performance, which is recorded in 3 different books. For an example, record of Ku.Ankita Meshram of 6th std can be seen below.







12. Summarizing the visit:

Coming to a comprehensive report of my visit, I would like to summarize my view points with below SWOT analysis:-

Strength:	**Weakness**:
1. PPS is the only school in entire Paoni that provides English medium education from Pre-primary to Jr.College. 2. As it's a no grant school, the teachers are performance oriented and do not have a taken for granted approach. 3. The quality of education at such less fees is at par with good schools in Nagpur city. 4. Apart from basic education, the school also focuses on teaching organic farming to students, which they sold to teachers and their parents. Programs like Swacch Bharat Abhiyan, best from waste inculcates social sensitization from a very tender age. 5. The Teachers, Parents, Students all praised their Young Women Director for the efforts, innovation and motivation she carries in the school. They all look upto her as an inspiration. When the top level management of any organization carries such positivity it automatically roots down to all the people in organization to be result oriented. 6. The "No Tuition" moto of the school and the end results of students is an achievement which shows the confidence of school in its teaching.	1. When free education at Govt School is available, some parents don't prefer sending their wards in a paid school. 2. The school does not keep track of the students once they pass out from 10^{th}. 3. The existing infrastructure is the major problem of school as all the students are not sitting in one premises and the teachers have to travel between the two schools for their classes time to time during the day. The teachers also said, many parents do not opt for PPS looking at the building's condition.

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Opportunities:	**Threat**:
1. The school has many plans in the area of vocational training, women empowerment, and new teaching techniques but the foremost obstacle is construction. If that's done, it has the potential to be an example in the field of rural education and urban too! 2. The school was appreciated by National Innvovation Foundation for their eco-sustainable product 'Pen made from Newspaper'. This also gives livelihood generation opportunity to the women in community. 3. In today's scenario, English is the necessity in education. Having strong base since the school days will open many horizons for the students in graduation and PG, which other medium students struggle through. 4. Such schools in rural areas will stop migration in coming time which occurs due to poor education facilities in rural areas. 5. The proposed land has a vast area to introduce vocational training centers and multiple projects to improvise education quality and giving beautiful experience in the lap of nature.	1. There are 3-4 schools in nearby surrounding out of which 1 is Govt school "Vainganga" (Marathi medium) which is preferred over PPS when it comes to fees. 2. Modern school offers English medium education but only till 4th, whereas Rainbow offers education from 1st to 7th. 3. The biggest threat is the old school building itself! The condition of the building is so terrible that I fear each day is a lucky escape ! With such number of admissions the need of a good school building persists.

Crux:

Pawan Public School is doing a wonderful work in the area of education especially in a rural area. The future of 600+ students lies with them and their need is extremely genuine. This school can do wonders with adequate support.

Sincerely,

Akshita Vyas

CSR Executive

Persistent Foundation, Nagpur