

THE MOMBASA PARENTS CLUB
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - 16TH MARCH 2024.

The Club Trustees, Members of the Management Committee and Honorable members of this vibrant club, there comes a time when one has to leave and pave the way for new blood to come in and pick the mantle and take the club to the next level - higher than where we are leaving it. I joined this reputable and unique club in 2005. Since then I have been a member of the club and I have served on the board of management as a member and as your chairman for close to **7 years**. I must honestly thank all the members of the management committee that I have been working with. This work is purely **pro bono** and at times we use our resources and we spend many hours up to late into the night planning for the progress of this institution.

Ladies and gentlemen let us give these selfless members applause. May God bless you and your entire families.

For sure it has not been a bed of roses being at the helm of this great club. I call upon all members to offer unwavering support to the incoming team and shun washing our dirty linen through social media platforms. If this tendency does not stop it will negatively affect this school and adversely affect the performance and discipline of the school.

When faced with internal challenges it is only important that we come and reason together soberly.

As a team, we have achieved so much for the time we have been in office. Here are a few:

RENOVATION AND FACELIFT OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

For a long time, our school buildings were not appealing at all and some sections were actually in a pathetic state. I am glad to inform you members that as I hung my boots during our AGM on Saturday the facelift given to the institution was worth it. Thank you, honorable members, for your support and for sacrificing your hard-earned resources for the sake of our children in this institution and for posterity. I hope the new incoming team will do even better for we all know that image is everything.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

We are grateful to all the members for enabling the school to attain three brand new buses between COVID-19 time and early last year. The latest bus we procured is a **VIP 47-seater Mercedes-Benz** plying the Mtwapa route. I can authoritatively inform you all that we have the best transport network in the entire coast region with highly qualified drivers and bus conductors. **Kudos to you our esteemed club members.**

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

One of the most trying moments for this institution, county, country, continent, and globally was when COVID-19 came out of the blues and hit us. This brought everything to a standstill and even the rich completely had nothing to do. Many institutions collapsed, others laid off completely and sadly some people committed suicide as a result of failure to take care of their families. Despite the myriad of changes, we successfully navigated through this period. We subjected our staff to half salary pay for a while and when things got better we went back to paying them in full. To this date, I remain most thankful to the

staff for being so understanding and for continuing to provide their services under those most extraneous times

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

We have renovated all the offices within the school and you can attest to the fact that our Principal's office and staff room are among the best facilities to be found in any school around. This is **state-of-the-art well-equipped** with modern furniture and the digital gadgets to enhance effective and efficient service delivery.

JSS WING AND SCIENCE LABORATORIES

Since the introduction of the famous JSS, now middle school, as a board working on your behalf, we have come up with one of the best tuitions JSS blocks, excellent home science and science laboratories. I am yet to see a school of our caliber with such provisions for JSS facilities.

One of the key landmark projects undertaken by this board and effectively completed is this section of our institution. It comprises **14 standard classrooms, two science laboratories, two offices, and several sanitary facilities for both boys and girls and staff**. This project was undertaken without looking for credit facilities from the banks. We used the money we had been saving due to remarkable financial controls put in place by the board of management and I am very delighted with the control measures and financial discipline implemented by the treasurer and team. We built this facility without bothering the members or doing any fundraising. We are set for senior secondary school because comparatively, we have better facilities and infrastructure to effectively render our services of moulding these youngsters into responsible citizens. I take this opportunity to

thank **Mr. Ramadan Kimanthi** for supervising this project to its full completion on a pro bono basis - without asking for any payment. Thank you, members, though a lot of stones were thrown at us for if it were not for God we would have given up along the way.

CANOPY

The outgoing team constructed a canopy to provide shade from the sun and the rain. Our angels can move freely and comfortably from their classrooms to the cafeteria and around the school.

WATER SOURCES IN THE SCHOOL

We have adequate boreholes and a good point of piped water for use by pupils and staff. We have several hand washing areas for pupils, students, staff and even visitors with soap placed strategically for use for safety. This has improved the hygiene of our children while within the school premises.

GATES

Our entrance and exit gates have been redesigned and well painted. We have had to lay cabros artistically at the entrance and at the walk paths for our young ones who come to school by public means to stay around the school and can easily walk to their respective sections of the school. We have a state-of-the-art entrance gate designed that depicts the status of our club. Thank you, members, because all these is out of your hard-earned resources put to good use.

FURNITURE

We appreciate you all especially those who pay school fees in good time. We have had to buy good seats befitting our children in their respective learning levels. We did not leave out the cafeteria, library, and staff room.

BOARDROOM

We have **one of the best boardrooms in any learning institution** of our level and even beyond. This has given meetings some privacy because in the past we used to share the staff room with teachers and this would at times inconvenience them, especially when they go for the evening tea or take some of their books to mark. This is all your effort dear members and as a board of management we highly appreciate.

GENERATOR

Over the years the school has had problems when there is no power or when there's power rationing or blackout. This would make it difficult for our children to concentrate due to the temperatures escalating to abnormal levels. We now have an automatic generator and it serves its purpose well. We were able to do all this due to the prudent financial controls by the treasurer and team and we highly appreciate it. My good people when we work as a team with the right mindset we achieve so much. This is a landmark project that will serve many generations to come.

CCTV CAMERAS

The Club acquired the services of these very important security gadgets. The school administration can now tell what is happening in the school 24/7. I am happy to report that the installation of this facility has not only enhanced security in the school but also improved the safety of our children and enhanced teaching and learning. Once again thank you for your support.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE.

I am glad to report to this sitting that ever since we did a charity walk to equip our learning resource center some years back, the management committee in conjunction with the teachers has bought more storybooks in both English and Kiswahili to enhance the reading culture of pupils. This is working very well. We have also topic books for facilitators on various disciplines and our learning resource center has sufficient reference books to broaden their knowledge and improve academic standards.

MAVUENI PROJECT

When my team and I came into office this very noble project had started. This School project sits on a 20-acre piece of land divided into two. The 10 acres is occupied by the stalled buildings, Admin block, hostels, classes and teachers houses. The next piece has a few squatters who are yet to leave because they are claiming the land is theirs and they should be compensated. The matter is in court and our lawyer Mr. Mulwa Nduya who is also a member of this club and served as our secretary representing us says the case is almost concluding. When we came into office in 2017 we inherited a big debt of about 30 million which by the grace was cleared without taking a loan from any bank. We later

formed a committee here in this hall where Mr. Hamid Muhammad together with other members were tasked to chart the way forward for the Mavueni project. The committee is yet to submit its final report to the Board. The incoming board in conjunction with the entire membership should decide on the fate of this project which is by the way a very good project.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Among all things done in school, the primary reason for bringing our children to school is to acquire holistic education, skills and concepts. Initially, this school was never known for excellence in academic performance until 2007 when we deployed Mr. John Kombo and the mean score kept on going up from **348 to 375** which is an **A-** then **390** which is almost an **A**, and then the school became a power House on matters of academic achievement. It is an academic giant that roars every end of the year and is expected to do all the time. Thank you, parents, for your support and sacrifice, our very committed teaching staff for excellent services over the years and for raising the flag of this great institution high all the time.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

My fellow members we all know that the institution rules the country's co-curricular activities in several disciplines. We are repeatedly the **National champions in swimming** actually in East and Central Africa, music festivals, and drama for both boys and girls

RECOVERED LAND ADJACENT TO THE SCHOOL

When history about the Club is written someday it will be remembered that the land meant for our secondary school that looked impossible to recover was finally reclaimed during our reign- the Board of Management and you Club members. This land was given to the club by the Government so that there is smooth transition from primary to secondary school. We all know that there is no good public secondary school in the entire area and the two outstanding private secondary schools are Light Academy and Sheikh Khalifa which as a result of good performance are crowded. We are the only community institution that can offer quality education compared to none around. The land whose value is more than 1.4 billion will go a long way not only in ensuring our children get quality education but will also offer job opportunities to many Kenyan professionals and non-professionals. Many leaders including politicians tried to revert the land to the school but failed terribly because of cartels' interest in it. I am so glad that God used us ordinary Kenyans to make possible what had been a dream and declared impossible. We give all the honour and glory to the almighty God for this great achievement. I can now hang my boots comfortably and say thank you God, you have done it. The club can now have an Olympic-sized swimming pool, a boarding institution, and all other activities including all the ball games. Who knows the place can become also a university for our young boys and girls. We are living the leadership of the Club with our heads high as we appreciate the many people who helped us realize this dream. Thank you.

SOCIAL WELFARE

One area we have not done well is organizing bonding meetings out of school for socializing and getting to know one another well. This is partly attributed to the COVID pandemic and partly due to the constant interreference by the people within who seem not to be happy about our co-existence. This is why it is important to vote for a more effective club affairs secretary so that members can get to know each other and benefit greatly from this social capital. Here we have the best Doctors, Lawyers, Engineers, Business people, Hoteliers, Farmers, Teachers many civil servants from all ministries, members of the fourth estate, officers from disciplined forces, and others. We need each other and therefore more social meetings could be necessary.

SCHOOL FEES PAYMENT

Last but not least I request all members to make fees payment a top priority irrespective of the economic hardships we are all experiencing. This will ensure we do not compromise the quality of our service delivery which would otherwise affect our youngsters. Develop a habit of starting to pay a small amount before schools open and before you know it you will have cleared. MPC members, we have achieved so much within the time we have been in office without increasing school fees. The last time the fee was increased was in the year 2016. I request the incoming team not to be quick in increasing school fees but to prudently spend what has come from parents. **Good financial display and zero tolerance for unethical practices** will always ensure this institution has a surplus to spend on development. When a parent has difficulties in his payments kindly approach the relevant authorities and I am sure you will be given a hearing ear and assistance. Let

us not be quick to judge or overreact when the matter would have been dealt with accordingly.

As you will notice from the financial statements, we have experienced deficits in the transport section and the cafeteria section of the school. The main reason being the general inflation that has increased the cost of fuel and the cost of food purchases. You will note that our charges for transport and cafeteria were last adjusted in 2016 nearly 8 years ago. It will be prudent that the incoming team will need to adjust some of these charges to guarantee proper service delivery in these areas.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND GOD BLESS MOMBASA PARENTS' CLUB

BENJAMIN GITONGA

MPC CHAIRMAN