

Report on 02/11/15
by Hon. David Kitani

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI



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CLERK
NAIROBI CITY
COUNTY ASSEMBLY
P. O. Box 45844-00100
NAIROBI

NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY
FIRST ASSEMBLY - THIRD SESSION

SIXTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
CHILDREN, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING
ON

FACT FINDING VISIT ON THE OWNERSHIP OF THE C.G.H.U SCHOOL,
THE ENROLMENT RATE AND STATUS OF CHILDREN SECURITY IN THE
SCHOOL.

12th NOVEMBER, 2015

Fact Finding Visit on the Ownership of The C.G.H.U School, the
Enrolment Rate and Status of Children Security in the School.

PREFACE

The Committee on Children, Early Childhood Education and Vocational Training is one of the Sectoral Committees established under Standing Order No. 191. It is mandated pursuant to Standing Order 191(5) is to:-

- a) investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;*
- b) study the programme and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;*
- c) study and review all county legislation referred to it;*
- d) study, assess and analyse the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with its stated objectives;*
- e) investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;*
- f) vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 185(Committee on Appointments); and*
- g) Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.*

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee comprises of the following Members:-

1. Hon. David Kitavi, MCA - (Chairman)
2. Hon. Kingsley Odida, MCA - (vice Chairman)
3. Hon. Fredrick Obenge, MCA
4. Hon. Elias Otieno Okumu, MCA
5. Hon. Kennedy Ng'ondi, MCA
6. Hon. Florence Athembo, MCA

7. Hon. Ngaruiya Chege ,MCA
8. Hon. Jack Ngare,MCA
9. Hon. Isaac N. Ngige,MCA
10. Hon. Njoroge G. Maina,MCA
11. Hon. Ruth Njeri, MCA
12. Hon. Mercy Kariuki, MCA
13. Hon. Jane Muasya, MCA
14. Hon. Elizabeth Sang, MCA
15. Hon. Karen Wanjiku, MCA
16. Hon. Imelda wanjala, MCA
17. Hon. Beatrice Kwamboka, MCA

BACKGROUND

The Committee exercises its oversight role on the work and administration of the Education, Children and Youth Affairs Sector.

In accordance with the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders, the Sectoral Committee *has the mandate to consider all matters related to:*

Pre-primary education, village polytechnics, home craft centres and childcare facilities; children welfare.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

On 5th November, 2015, the Committee at its sitting resolved to make a site visit to C.G.H.U Primary School with a purpose of getting some facts on the ownership of the School, the enrolment rate and status of security of pupils in the school.

This followed a Statement requested by Amos Mbuthia regarding the Ownership of C.G.H.U Primary School located on Ronald Ngala Street.

Mr. Speaker Sir,


The Committee wishes to sincerely thank the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the support and services extended to Members to enable them complete the exercise smoothly.

I am grateful to Members of the Committee whose support enabled the Committee to

accomplish this task. Special thanks to the secretariat for their immense support at all times.

On behalf of the Committee, I now have the honour and pleasure to present this report on fact finding visit on the ownership of the C.G.H.U Primary School.

Thank you

Signed by..........

Hon. David Kitavi, MCA, Chairperson Committee on Children, Early Childhood Education and Vocational Training.

THE SITE VISITS

On 13th October, 2015, Hon. Amos Mbugia rose on the floor of the Assembly and requested for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Children, Early Childhood Education and Vocational Training. The Committee at its sitting held on 5th November 2015 considered the statement and resolved to visit the school to gather the facts and ascertain the correct position.

The Committee visited Cutchi Gujarati Hindu Union (C.G.H.U) primary school on 9th November 2015.

The Committee arrived at, C.G.H.U primary at 12:25 Pm. where they met the Head teacher who welcomed the Committee before she was interviewed by the Committee. The Chair also introduced members present before informing the head teacher of the Committee's mandates and the reasons for the site visit. He further requested the head teacher to give the Committee a brief regarding the history and ownership of institution.

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS AND ORAL SUBMISSION BY THE HEAD TEACHER

The Head Teacher informed the Committee that she came to the school in the Year 2006. The school is a single stream from class one up to class eight. She said that the school was initiated through a partnership between Hindu Community and the defunct City Council of Nairobi. She informed the Committee that the Hindu Community built

the structures during the pre-independence era and that the school became a public school after it was officially opened by the then colonial Governor.

The Head teacher although she had no documents, said that in the agreement there was an understanding between the defunct City Council and the Hindu Community that the Council to deploy the teachers while the Hindu community was supposed to benefit from school fees, and provide maintenance services as well as stationeries.

However the Committee was made to understand that the Hindu Community was no longer benefitting from the school fees right from onset of free primary Education policy which started in 2003, therefore the Hindu Community were not benefitting from their premises which used to generate some money for them.

The Head teacher noted that the Hindu Community went to court because they were not benefitting anymore as a result of free primary school policy. The sponsors then went again to court in 2009 contesting that they be given fees from the secondary school which was being housed in the school compound.

The Committee was also informed that there were 250 pupils in the primary school and 10 children in the C.G.H.U in the ECD centre, and that children in the Pre-School section enjoy free education.

The Committee was further informed that the public are using the school compound as a parking lot. The Committee observed however that parking by the public poses a lot of danger to the playing pupils.

CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED BY THE SCHOOL

The head teacher reported the following challenges as experienced by the institution;

- a) Poor state of sanitation, toilets in poor state, lack of running water. The Committee members were taken round to witness the state of the sanitation. The Committee observed the sanitation was in poor state as the urinals and toilets were unsightly and with no water to clean. There were no taps.

- b) Lack of school feeding programmes- the head teacher reported that there was a school feeding programme some years ago until the program was terminated by the government.
- c) Low rate of enrolment
- d) Very small allocation from the government.
- e) The parents of the pupils who most of them were said to be hawkers dump their children in that school without further cooperation with the teachers. She informed that such lack of cooperation led to poor performances in examinations, examination and general academic performance.
- f) Insecurity posed by hawkers who use the school as a hideout during swoops by County Askaris causing teargas to be lobed around the premises thereby posing danger to the health of the pupils.

THE HEAD TEACHER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The head teacher prayed that the following be taken into consideration;-

- i. Repaired and modernized toilets, urinals to upgrade the state of sanitation
- ii. Availing the sustainable school feeding programmes.
- iii. Availing clean and safe water for consumption
- iv. The government to increase the allocation
- v. To repair and replace the broken and old furniture with new desks to enhance conducive learning because many pupils lack desks

MEETING MR. PATEL, ADMINISTRATOR

The Committee visited Mr. Patel the administrator of the C.G.H.U to get a brief on the ownership of the school.

Mr. Patel an 85 year old man of Indian decent was a representative of the C.G.H.U, and managed the affairs of the primary school.

Mr. Patel informed the Committee that the premise and school belonged to to Cutchi Gujarati Hindu Union (C.G.H.U). He categorically stated that the title deed of the property belonged to C.G.H.U. the Hindu Community was given land by the Colonialists. He further stated that it is a non-profit making institute which was established in 1906 to articulate the interest of Hindu Community in pre-colonial era. He said the school was built in 1940s.

He informed that in 2003 when the policy of free primary Education was launched the C.G.H.U ceased collecting money from the pupils and thus they lost the rent they used to collect from the fee. The C.G.H.U went to the Court to petition the defunct Nairobi City Council who had allegedly grabbed the institution. The judgment was in favor of C.G.H.U. The Court ordered that the defunct City Council should pay the rent or take the children elsewhere. However he also pointed that the Court order was served to the City Council which has failed to honor it till now.

Mr. Patel denied any substantive renovations by the County although he agreed that the C.G.H.U got some donations from other people which were also not enough to run the institution.

Mr. Patel finally pointed some of the challenges they experienced. Challenges include noise, thugs and traffic jams. These also contributed to the lots of Hindu faithful to look for other temples to perform their prayers as the place is very much insecure. This is because the area has high traffic of both pedestrians and motor vehicles especially public service vehicles which use the adjacent area as a terminus and petty thieves take advantage of this environment to mug passes by.

RECOMMENDATION BY MR. PATEL

As a way forward, Mr. Patel recommended that the students and primary pupils be moved and the school be closed.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Following the site inspection visits by the Committee to the C.G.H.U primary school, the Committee urges that, this Assembly do resolve as follow;

- i. That, pupils in the pre-school section be moved to a safer school and the section be closed immediately.
- ii. The County government liaise with the Ministry of Education on the possibility of renovating the school and providing security to the pupils; or alternatively that the school be closed down.
- iii. The County Government to relocate the Matatu terminus just outside the School entrance to reduce the levels of noise that hinder conducive for learning atmosphere.

- iv. The County Government to rid Ronald Ngala Street of Hawkers and relocate them to Muthurwa market.

GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI CITY COUNTY



THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

FIRST ASSEMBLY

(THIRD SESSION)

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS


Hon. Speaker,

Pursuant to Standing Order 41(2) (c), I wish to request for a statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Children, Early Childhood Education and Vocational Training regarding the ownership of SSD Primary School which has an Early Childhood Education Department located on Ronald Ngala Street.

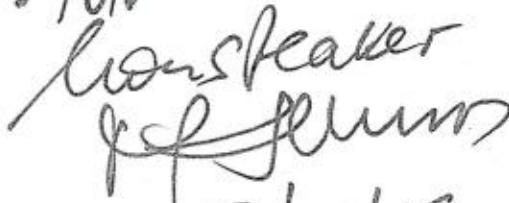
Hon. Speaker, SSD Primary School on Ronald Ngala Street has a department of early childhood education. Furthermore, the School is used as a hideout for hawkers who engage in battle with County Askaris.

Hon. Speaker, in the statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:-

- i. Ownership of SSD Primary School located on Ronald Ngala Street;
- ii. Number of early childhood education age children in the School;
- iii. Why hawkers use the institution as a hideout when in confrontation with City County Askaris; and
- iv. Measures the County is taking to prevent children from the dangers of confrontations between City Askaris and Hawkers.


Hon. Amos Mbuthia, MCA
Member for Kahawa Ward.

Date... 13/10/2015

Approved
Hon. Speaker

13/10/15



THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF

EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS

Date:

Request for a statement from the Commissioner of the Department of Education and the State Board of Education regarding the following information: [Faint text describing the request]

- I. [Faint text]
II. [Faint text]
III. [Faint text]
IV. [Faint text]

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