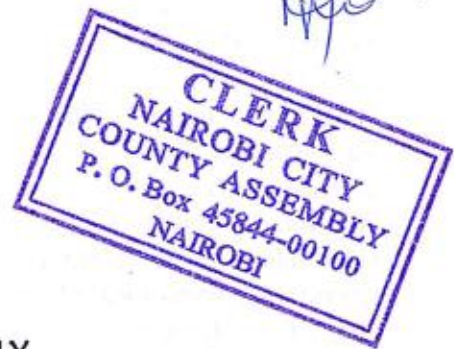


by Hon. David Kitani

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI

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NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

FIRST ASSEMBLY - THIRD SESSION

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

THE STATUS OF UMOJA ONE NURSERY, UNITY DAY NURSERY AND
SIMBA DAY NURSERY SCHOOL OF NAIROBI CITY COUNTY

5th May, 2015

The status report of Umoja One Nursery, Unity Day Nursery and Simba Day Nursery School of Nairobi City County

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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. Magdalene Mbogori, MCA

1.0 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,

The fourth schedule of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 outlines the distribution of functions between the National Government and the County Governments.

The defunct City Council of Nairobi had been managing both basic and primary education in the City since 1976. All public primary schools were therefore the property of the Nairobi City Council and maintained by the same.

Consultations are ongoing between the Ministry of Education and the County Executive Committee of the County Government so that the County continues performing the management and maintenance functions of public Primary schools in the City.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Nairobi City County has 205 public primary schools with 178 of these schools having pre-unit sections located within the schools compound.

The physical conditions of most schools within the County of Nairobi are wanting and yet heavily congested. Others have seen their boundaries encroached on by private developers. In some situations, schools have been vandalized.

Being aware of the challenges pre-schools are experiencing, the committee while discharging its mandate resolved to inquire into the status of pre-schools within Nairobi City County with a view of making recommendation that can improve the Management and performance of the pre-schools.

In the course of the inquiry, the Committee visited Umoja One day Nursery School, Simba day Nursery School and Unity day Nursery School. The findings of the visits are contained in this report.

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 the status of the three Nairobi City County Pre-Schools to this Assembly for adoption.

Thank you

Signed by 

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

THE SITE VISITS

The Committee at its sitting held on Wednesday 4th February, 2015 resolved to undertake a visit to a number of Nursery schools within the County so as to ascertain the learning conditions and make recommendations for remedial action.

SIMBA DAY NURSERY SCHOOL

OBJECTIVE

The Committee visited Simba Day Nursery school which is owned by Nairobi City County. The Nursery is located in Embakasi West District, Umoja Two ward on Wednesday 11th March, 2015 to ascertain and report on:-

- The status of the school environment and infrastructure
- Classroom environment and learning process in the Nursery schools
- General operation of the school

2.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATION.

The Committee arrived at Simba Day Nursery School at 1:00 P.M. They were welcomed by the Embakasi West District Education Officer and Mrs. Rosemary Kimani and the School Head teacher Madam Nyokabi.

The Committee was given a tour around the school and observed the following:-

- i. That the nursery school was clean and children were resting on good and clean mattresses;
- ii. The school has shortage of cooks, cleaners and teachers;
- iii. The school also has limited learning materials. This has forced teachers to improvise own materials to enhance learning;
- iv. The school has a total of one hundred and nine learners, ten teachers, one watchman and one cook;
- v. There are two streams of baby class, three streams of nursery classes and one pre-unit;
- vi. The parents pay a total of Ksh. 5100 which may be paid in installments for three months at Ksh 1800. Initially, each nursery school would remit Ksh 370 per child in a term to the county government. This was changed to Ksh 600 per child per term;
- vii. Almost all classroom roofs of the school were leaking, which becomes a challenge during the rainy season;

- viii. The kitchen was in a deplorable condition and needs a serious renovation;
- ix. Most floor tiles within all classes are worn out, thus exposing the concrete floor that is not good with young children, due to the dust;
- x. There was a lot of noise pollution emanating from a garage that was next to the school compound. The noise is so high and therefore hinders learning as it distracts learners from paying attention. The same garage uses the school fence as their dumpsite this is hazardous to the lives of the little children learning in the school;
- xi. The sewerage system had malfunctioned and there was also dirty water emanating from the garage next door;
- xii. The staffs have no uniforms as is required. This forces them to use their own clothing which may end up being dirtied by the young children in the process of learning.

3.0 Committee Recommendations on Simba Day Nursery School

- i. County government of Nairobi City to provide free early childhood education to all public nursery schools, in line with the National Government policy on Early Childhood Education and provision of the Constitution of Kenya 2010;
- ii. The nursery school requires an administrative clerk to help the head teacher run some administrative roles;
- iii. More teachers to be employed as those available cannot manage to handle the large and ever increasing population;
- iv. A School Feeding programme be introduced in the school;
- v. The County government to ensure that there are no garages, factories constructed close to schools and as a result, the garage that is close to Simba Day Nursery school be closed immediately and relocated;
- vi. The Nursery school requires more classes to accommodate the increasing population of learners in the school;
- vii. Sewerage system and the roofs of the nursery school to be repaired; and
- viii. The County government to provide uniforms to teachers and other subordinate staff.

UNITY DAY NURSERY

Members visited at the school which is owned by Nairobi City County. The Nursery is located in Embakasi West District, Umoja Two ward on Wednesday 11th March, 2015 at 2:30 P.M and welcomed by the Head teacher Mrs. Beatrice Were.

She informed the Committee that all teachers in the school were employed by the County Government.

5.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATION

- i. The school has been experiencing water shortage for long. This has forced teachers to buy water from vendors. The washrooms of the school produce bad odour since there is no water to flush them;
- ii. The school has no perimeter wall therefore children from the surrounding neighbourhood get into the playground and end up destroying the school playing equipment;
- iii. The roofs of the most classrooms are leaking and some roofing tiles are falling off.
- iv. The school has one hundred and seventy five children learning in the facility, 11 teachers and one cook;
- v. Children pay a total fee of Ksh. 5,100. The county provides washing detergent and mattresses to the school; and
- vi. The parents had previously built an extension structure to meet the increasing number of pupils enrolling in the school.

6.0 Committees Recommendations on Unity Day Nursery School

- i. A perimeter wall should be constructed to reduce the tendency of other children from entering the school and breaking the school playing equipment;
- ii. More classes should be constructed and more play equipment installed to cater for increasing enrolments;
- iii. County to employ more teachers to meet the demand of the increasing learner population;
- iv. The school needs a continuous supply of fresh water. The County government to purchase tanks to store water; and
- v. The leaking roofs and loose tiles be repaired urgently as this poses a danger to the children.

UMOJA ONE NURSERY SCHOOL

The Committee visited the school which is owned by Nairobi City County. The Nursery is located in Embakasi West District, Umoja One ward on Wednesday, 22nd October 2014 at 12:00 noon. Members were welcomed by the Head teacher and the area MCA. They were thereafter taken on a tour around the school.

7.0 Committee Observations.

- i. The Committee toured the classrooms where they observed, the classrooms were few despite the high number of learners. One classroom was being shared by two classes with no proper partition, thus learning was hindered by noise from the other class. As a result, the classes were too congested limiting the movement of the teacher when assisting individual learners;
- ii. The school had eleven teachers and one subordinate staff;
- iii. During the resting time, learners would use one of the classes to rest. They also use the dining hall as a class despite the fact that it is close to the kitchen. The Committee also observed that the kitchen was very clean;
- iv. There were very attractive teaching aids/ materials which were used to stimulate learners desire to learn;
- v. The school environment was clean and the general hygiene in the institution was commendable;
- vi. The total number of learners in the school is 250, an increase from 221 in 2013. This has raised the need for more classrooms to accommodate the increasing number of learners;
- vii. Parents are paying fee of Ksh. 5,100 per term to enable learners get education services in the institution. The fee also caters for the meals learners are accorded;
- viii. The school has one cook yet they are required to have at least three;
- ix. The baby class was very small yet it accommodated 22 learners. The Head teacher informed the Committee that the class will be changed to computer lab when the County Government delivers the two computers they had promised the Nursery school;
- x. School toilets were clean but no constant supply of water. The sinks were in a deplorable state. The teachers assisted the one subordinate staff in cleanliness of the washrooms and classes;

- xi. The children's playground was good; it has some equipment and facilities that necessitated creativity and fun among the learners; and
- xii. The school head teacher also informed the Committee that the County Government of Nairobi had donated mattresses to the school.

Committee Recommendation on Umoja One

The Committee on ascertaining the situation at the school made the following recommendations:-

- i) That the school needs two more classes, a dining hall and Kitchen which are detached from the classes;
- ii) Water supply to the school was a problem and therefore the need of installing two more tanks and repair of the water system to the toilets;
- iii) The school has never been surveyed thus the boundaries are not very distinctive, and also it has no Title deed. The Committee recommended that the department of Planning should fast-track the process so that the school can embark on development; and
- iv) School roofs and floors need to be completely renovated. The roofs are leaking while the floor has some broken tiles and crevices that need immediate replacement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Speaker,

Following the site inspection visits by the Committee to the three Nursery Schools, the Committee urges that, this Assembly do resolve as follows;

- 1) The Nairobi City County to offer free Early Childhood Education in the County to allow equal access to Education by the Children living in the County;
- 2) Perimeter fence to be constructed in all the Public Nursery Schools within the County for security and to prevent grabbing of the School land by unscrupulous land dealers;
- 3) A thorough repair work of the Nursery schools to allow the Children learn in a favourable environment;
- 4) The Nairobi City County to employ sufficient teaching and support staff to enable the learning process run smoothly and improve efficiency in learning environment;

- 5) Most of the Nursery Schools are in dire need of clean water. The County should liaise with Nairobi Water to ensure that the County owned Nursery and ECDE Centres be supplied with clean water;
- 6) Noisy business establishment e.g. garages, bars next to schools be urgently relocated to improve the conditions of learning environment and not expose children to hazardous wastes as in the case of Simba Day Nursery School;
- 7) The County governments of Nairobi do consider providing school feeding programme in Nursery schools within the County;
- 8) The County Executive Committee to develop a policy to guide in the licensing of the kind of business establishments residents may be allowed to operate within a certain radius of schools.
- 9) There is need for enactment of Early Childhood facilities Bills to come up with a framework for management of ECD facilities.

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This ensures transparency and allows for easy verification of the data.

Furthermore, it is noted that the records should be kept in a secure and accessible format. Regular backups are recommended to prevent data loss in the event of a system failure or disaster. The document also mentions the need for periodic audits to ensure the integrity and accuracy of the information stored.

In conclusion, the document stresses that proper record-keeping is essential for the success of any business or organization. It provides a clear framework for how to manage financial and operational data effectively.

