REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

HANSARD

Tuesday, 17th November, 2015

Afternoon Session

Time: 02:30 p.m.

[Hon. Elijah Omondi, Presiding Speaker]

[Prayers by Presiding Speaker]

[NOTICES OF MOTION]

Madam Speaker (Hon. Pamela Omino): Any notice of Motion? Hon. Faridah.

Hon. Maina Koko: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I wish to give a notice of motion on the report of ECD & Vocational training.

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Omondi): Next order!

COMMENCEMENT OF BUSINESS

MOTION:

- ✓ **ECD Report on Vocational Training, Recruitment of ECD Assistants and Bursary disbursement.**

Hon. Maina Koko: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I want to give a report of ECD & Vocational training committee on Vocational Training, Recruitment of ECD Assistants and Bursary disbursement. I am presenting on behalf of the committee chairman hon. Achayo.

The report of ECD, Vocational Training and Adult Education was moved on the floor and withdrawn by the Chair of the Committee on 12th August 2015 after the house felt the Committee needed to investigate more on the topics that were under study which included Recruitment and Deployment of ECD Assistants and factors influencing poor performance in the sector, Vocational Training and Bursary Disbursement. We believe that Early Childhood Development is the key to a full and Productive life for a child and to the Progress of a Nation and in pursuant to section 191 part 5 of the Interim County Assembly Standing Orders, we have the mandate to ensure quality, child-friendly and accessible service delivery to pre-school children through promoting quality services for children by overseeing the adherence of standard and quality assurance guidelines in Early Childhood Development and Education at the County.

COMMITTEE MANDATE

All matters related to pre-primary education, village polytechnics, home craft centres and childcare facilities.

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

To investigate on:

1. Recruitment and Deployment of ECD Assistants
2. Bursaries
3. Factors affecting Vocational Trainings

METHODOLOGY:

To achieve the objectives, the research adopted both the Survey and case study designs. The targeted population were Heads of Community Based Vocational Centres, The Kisumu County Public Service Board, The Community Development Assistants and the Kisumu County Education Office.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE:

The committee is constituted by the following:

Hon. Paul Achayo - Chairperson

Hon. Maina Koko - Vice Chairperson

Hon. Kelvin Odhiambo - Member

Hon. Nereah Okombo - Member

Hon. Benta Ogola - Member

Hon. Jacktone Onunga - Member

Hon. James Omolo - Member

Hon. James Were - Member

Hon. Nellie Osok - Member

Hon. Lydia Odhiambo - Member

Hon. Lydia Ndege - Member

Hon. Caroline Ogot - Member

Hon. Joshua Auko - Member

Hon. John O. Olum - Member

FINDINGS

1.**RECRUITMENTMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF ECD ASSISTANTS IN KISUMU COUNTY**

Research has shown that half of a person's intelligence potential is developed by age four and that early childhood development interventions can have a lasting effect on intellectual capacity personality and social behavior. Integrated programs that target children in their very early years are therefore critical for their mental and psychosocial development. Failure to invest in Early Childhood Development can results in development delay and disability as well as inhibit the optimal development and performance of children throughout their lives. The long history of discriminatory provision in this sector delivers a set of conditions that make it difficult to prove a quick-fix solution. It is for this reason that the situation requires a set of immediate measures alongside carefully devised medium and long term strategies that will provide a better foundation to address the fundamental need for Early Childhood Development and Education services in this era of devolved system of governance.

The Committee invited the Kisumu County Public Service Board in their meetings to discuss the report on the recruitment and deployment of ECD Assistants. The recruitment were based on the request made by the Executive to the Public Service Board on the Recruitment of ECD Assistants vide a letter referenced CGK/RC/ED/Y/C/&SS/15/VOL 1 of 6th January 2014. Being one of the devolved

function, the County Government of Kisumu play a leading role in promoting the development of the sector.

The Committee realized that the department had offered three year contract to all the 700 ECD Assistants where Diploma Holders were offered Kshs. 12,500 and Certificate Holders Kshs. 10,500 lump sum. The Committee was informed that the County Public Service Board had developed clear and comprehensive permanent and pensionable terms of service for all the ECD assistants which would be implemented once the court case was completely settled.

The Board tabled to the Committee the list of successful applicants and their wards of origin for further scrutiny. While we acknowledge that some ECDs have as many as between 100-200 children and others having as low as between 9 -15 children, the County has to follow government procedures and standard guidelines which dictates that we have one teacher for every 25 children. We are also alive to the fact that ECD centres should have a minimum of 3 classrooms with one teacher and one teacher assistant. However, in view of unique situation and also considering budgetary constraints, the Department of Education, Youth, Culture and Social Development strived to post at least one assistant in all the 660 public ECDs in Kisumu County.

The list tabled by the Service Board was a bulky one and would require time to go through, therefore we have summarized as below:

Successful Applicants:

CENTRAL SEME:

No of Successful Applicants	Qualifications		Male	Female
	Diploma	Cert.		
20	8	12	4	16
EAST SEME				
No. of successful applicants	Qualifications		Male	Female
	Diploma	Cert.	2	18
20	9	11		

NORTH SEME				
No of successful applicants	Qualifications		Male	Female
20	Diploma	Cert.	3	17
	8	12		
WEST SEME				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert	Male	Female
20	2	18	2	18
CENTRAL NYAKACH				
Successful applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	7	13	3	17
SOUTH EAST NYAKACH				
Successful applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	12	8	2	18
SOUTH WEST NYAKACH				
Successful applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	9	11	2	18
WEST NYAKACH				
Successful applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	8	12	3	17
AHERO				
Successful applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	9	11	1	19
AWASI ONJIKO				
Successful applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	7	13	2	18
EAST KANO WAWIDHI				
Successful applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	8	12	1	19
KABONYO KANYAGWAL				
Successful applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	4 dip 1 degree	15	1	19
KOBURA				
Successful applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	5	15	1	19
KISUMU CENTRAL				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female

120	64	56	5	115
KISUMU WEST – Central Kisumu				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	8	12	4	16
NORTH KISUMU				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	10	10	0	20
NORTH WEST KISUMU				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	1 1	9	1	19
SOUTH WEST KISUMU				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	4	16	2	18
WEST KISUMU				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	5	15	2	18
KISUMU EAST – KOLWA CENTRAL				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Cert.
20	8	12	2	18
KOLWA EAST				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Cert.
20	7	13	3	17

NYALENDA 'A'				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	6	14	1	19
MANYATA				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	6	14	0	20
KAJULU				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	7	13	3	17
MUHORONI – MUHORONI/KORU				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
	7	13	0	20
CHEMELIL				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	9	11	2	18
MASONGO/NYANGOMA				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	8	12	1	19
MIWANI				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	7	13	3	17

OMBEYI				
Successful Applicants	Diploma	Cert.	Male	Female
20	5	15	3	17

We urge Members to be keen and be able to exhaust the information they require in the annexures. (Annex 1: List of the Applicants & successful applicants and their qualifications, annex ii: list of teachers who never showed up)

The exercise was marred with a lot of challenges which included:

i. **Inconsistencies of the appointment details and the individual's documents:**
    a. Some of the cases experienced involved typographic errors either on the name of the candidate or ID numbers.

ii. **Double Entries:**
    a. Nine applicants had their names appearing twice in the lists, this had created nine vacancies to be filled as soon as possible.

iii. **Lack of settlement at the stations of original posting:**

    a. Some teachers were experiencing difficulties in accessing their places of posting due to different challenges. This led to reorganization of some postings leaving a number of the poorly accessible schools without teachers. The schools need to be given considerations during the replacements.

iv. **Adequate teaching and learning resources**
    a. Many ECDE centers lack adequate teaching and learning resource sand facilities suitable for ECDE in their learning environment. These include lack of properly ventilated classrooms, furniture suitable for children, kitchen, safe clean water, playground, toilets and play material. This implies that teachers do not have adequate teaching and learning resources to enable them to implement ECDE curriculum effectively.

v. **Financial Constraint**

vi. Financial constraints can lead to ineffective implementation of early childhood education. The government has not been able to furnish ECD schools with facilities required because of the heavy debt burden. It is reported that these debt servicing programs is partly responsible for

significant reduction in government funding for subsidized education, health care and school related expenses.

vii. Little pay and employee work environment

Little pay leads to stress and under performance and with the prevailing financial condition in the County, it is likely that there would be high quits rate.

2. VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Vocational Training, also known as Vocational Education and Training and Career and Technical Education, is all the training needed for a certain job. Vocational training doesn't apply to professions like medicine or law, but to trades such as auto repair, plumbing or even funeral services and retail. These programs generally focus on providing students with hands –on instruction in a specific trade, and generally allow them to forgo the general education courses associated with most postsecondary programs.

The Youth Polytechnic Training function was transferred to the County Governments through Legal Notice No. 16 of February 2013 and gazette notice no. 116 of 9th August 2013 pursuant to the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution of Kenya 2010 where the County Government roles were to look after:

1. Pre-Primary education
    i) Registration of pre-primary schools
    ii) Employment of pre-primary teachers
    iii) Capacity Building of stakeholders, school committees and communities on ECDE
2. Village polytechnics
3. Home craft centers
4. Childcare facilities

At the advent of the County Government, all the staff who were in the counties and performing devolved functions were deemed seconded to continue providing services.

The negative attitude towards learning in these Institutions has attracted a lot of attention of members of the Committee of ECD, Vocational Training and Adult Education and in their findings it was evident that most of these institutions had not registered to be legible to perform such functions.

A case study of Ahero Youth Polytechnic in Nyando shows that it is one of the reliable youth polytechnics that the County should not let down. The population of this institution is about 250. This institution is sponsored by the Catholic Church

since 1968. In the year 1970, it was taken by the Government under the Department of Social Services and later to the Ministry of Youth Affairs in 2006 and now has been devolved to the County. The institution is both day and boarding and provides training on the following disciplines:

a) Electronical and Electronic Technology
b) Building Technology
c) Metal Processing Technology
d) Fashion Design and Garment Making Technology
e) Hair Dressing and Beautify therapy
f) Motor vehicle technology
g) Information Communication Technology
h) Agri-Business Technology
i) Food and Beverages Technology.

The rest of the youth polytechnics require the fundamental rethinking and radical redesign of business process to achieve dramatic improvements in critical, contemporary measures of performance in quality service and cost.

Presently, the already registered Youth Polytechnics are twelve out of 23 Vocational Trainings in the County namely:

1. Akado in Kisumu East
2. Ahero in Nyando
3. Kitambo in Seme
4. Chwa in Seme
5. Nyangoma in Muhoroni
6. Katito in Nyakach
7. Koru in Muhoroni
8. Achego in Muhoroni
9. KUAP in Kisumu East
10. Mariwa in Nyakach
11. Wachara in Kisumu West
12. Lunga in Seme.

Although the County Government has identified those Youth Polytechnics which have not registered, it is true that they have done very little or nothing at all to support them. The facilities in most of these institutions are obsolete. It is also true that the Transitional Authority letter which deployed instructors to Counties has delayed to be effected to accommodate instructors in the payroll until when a motion was brought by Hon. Maurice Aloo on the Management of these Institutions. The Committee is impressed with the way the Executive has

responded towards the motion and as we speak, instructors have been paid all their dues and have now embarked on serious business. Before we expect change in our youths, we need to uplift the face of our institutions and hire trained and qualified instructors who are able to move them to higher heights.

3. BURSARIES:

Bursary was introduced to enhance access, ensure retention and reduce the disparities and inequalities in provision of education in Kenya. In communal involvement in decision making, it was anticipated that there would be fairness and efficiency in the whole process. The number of bursary applicants has continued to increase and the bursary award has no relationship with the beneficiary's socio-economic and the average amount of money distributed depends more on the who is who than one's socio-economic status. There is no statistical significant difference in allocations between students in provincial, district schools, private and day schools leading to awards spread thinly to many students. The Committee of ECD, Vocational Training and Adult Education invited the CEC member for Education to their meeting of 19thOctober 2015 citing areas of interest for discussion. Among the documents availed were:

1. Comprehensive report on 2nd and 3rd Bursary Disbursement per ward
2. Total amount disbursed
3. List of beneficiaries per ward
4. Governor's Kitty

These documents were very bulky that if printed would cost the Assembly a lot of money and since we are in paperless era, we decided to post the information to the Assembly website for your further action.

SUMMARY ON THE DISBURSEMENT PER WARD AND GOVERNORS KITTY

SUB COUNTY	WARD	2ND DISBURSMENT	3RD DISBURSMENT
KISUMU CENTRAL	1. Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo 2. Kondele 3. Market Milimani 4. Migosi 5. Nyalenda B	980,000- for each ward	980,000 for each ward

	6. Railways		
KISUMU EAST	1. Kajulu 2. Kolwa East 3. Kolwa Central 4. Manyatta B 5. Nyalenda A	980,000 for each ward	980,000 for each ward
KISUMU WEST	1. Central Kisumu 2. Kisumu North 3. North West Kisumu 4. South West Kisumu 5. West Kisumu	980,000 each ward	980,000 each ward
MUHORONI	1. Chemelil 2. Masogo/Nyangoma 3. Miwani 4. Muhoroni/Koru 5. Ombeyi	980,000 each ward	980,000 each ward
NYAKACH	1. Central Nyakach 2. North Nyakach 3. South East Nyakach 4. South West Nyakach 5. West Nyakach	980,000 each ward	980,000 each ward
SEME	1. Central Seme 2. East Seme 3. North Seme 4. West Seme	980,000 each ward	980,000 each ward
NYANDO	1. Ahero 2. Awasi/Onjiko 3. East Kano Wawidhi 4. Kabonyo/Kanyagwal 5. Kobura	980,000 each ward	980,000 each ward
GOVERNORS' KITTY			
		2ND DISBURSEMEN	3RD DISBURSEMEN

	T	T
	12,646,558	7,683,861

It is good to note that the 1st disbursement of the bursary had already been presented to this house and the copies can be obtained in the Office of the Clerk in case of need.

Based on the findings, the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training should provide loans to those taking courses and in addition to ensure that students who are really needy are allocated more.

It is in public domain that late issuance of bursary forms and late disbursement of funds has caused many students to drop out of school since they are very needy and cannot afford to pay fees without assistance. Other issues like erroneous names and admission numbers of students have dragged the work and has often caused a lot of tension in the attempt to cope up with the requirements. Some students who ought to have received their first bursaries have not been successful to date, bounced cheques have never been replaced despite several meetings with the Minister for Education on the same.

Although it hasn't been smooth, it is encouraging to know a number of students in Kisumu County have benefited in this bursary and we are working hard to curb the problems once the system is fully implemented. We encourage our electorates to be patient as we move towards corrective measures. The Committee in their deliberations suggested two ways in which issuance of bursary may be successful:

a) That bursary forms be released between the months of August and September and 2 million Kenya shillings be disbursed by January. The balance of Kshs. 800,000 be reserved for form ones and disbursed in March.
b) Another suggestion was that bursary be given once a year in totality.

CHALLENGES

1. The number of bursary applicants keeps on increasing yet the amount given for allocation is not enough leading to more than half of applicants missing out on bursary.
2. The allocations to applicants is not consistent, application procedures are tedious and confusing, bursary funds take more than four months and the whole process is marred with political influence.

3. In relation to proportion of each category of student's fee met by bursary, all students receive insufficient funds regardless of whether one is an orphan or not.
4. Lack of proper guidelines from the Ministry on inclusion of day, boarding and private schools has seen many students from these categories apply and receive bursaries further increasing the number of recipients implying that funds are spread to many students and therefore not enough.
5. According to the research obtained, the bursary fund scheme is not effective in terms of amounts allocated and time taken for it to reach recipients. Moreover, some of the really needy cases are not catered for by the bursary.
6. Lack of proper recording of data has meant that the same procedures are repeated every year, which is time consuming.
7. Lack of effective monitoring systems to ensure effectiveness of the scheme has seen some of the more needy cases being excluded

(Annex iii– visit kisumu assembly website.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The County Government should establish and prioritize factors that can contribute to efficiency in the vocational institutions by maximizing use of information technology.
2. The level of satisfaction is on the low and the County Management to sustain continuing efforts to motivate ECD teachers
3. The ECD Assistants who never reported to their new designated areas be replaced by the locals within those wards who qualified for the positions and were never successful.
4. Bursary disbursement be once a year to avoid inconveniences and the use of locations to consider those with high population and it be based on poverty index of each location and number of needy students.
5. Establish the relation between salary increment and employee work environment satisfaction
6. Youths should be encouraged to join vocational institutions through extensive sensitization
7. The County Government should set aside money for the development of youth polytechnics
8. The County Government be compelled to disburse bursary funds as stipulated by the Act.

CONCLUSION:

I am humbled and appreciate the patience you have accorded me and I request Hon. Members to consider approving this report for the betterment of the County.

Madam speaker, I want to request Hon. James Omollo to second.

Hon. James Omollo: Thank you Madam Speaker, I hereby rise to second the report of ECD & Vocational training committee on Vocational Training, Recruitment of ECD Assistants and Bursary disbursement as read.

Madam Speaker (Hon. Pamela Omino): Hon. Members, a report of ECD & Vocational training committee on Vocational Training, Recruitment of ECD Assistants and Bursary disbursement has been presented by Hon. Maina Koko and seconded by Hon. James Omollo. I therefore propose a question for debate.

Hon. Aggrey Ogosi: Thank you Madam Speaker, I rise to support this report and say as follows: That our Standing orders are very clear that a report of this nature needs to be given to members at least 12 hours before the debate. Going by that, this is a bulky and very important document for this County and anything that someone has to say must say it based on knowledge and not what we think. We need to read this document and debate properly and I therefore want to request that debate on this report be rescheduled to tomorrow. Thank you.

Hon. John Olum: Thank you Madam Speaker, this is very important report and I want to support hon. Ogosi that members be given time to go through the report so that they come back for it tomorrow. Thank you.

Madam Speaker (Hon. Pamela Omino): Any other suggestion? Hon. Members, there is a proposal from hon. Ogosi and seconded by hon. Olum that the document presented before us is voluminous and therefore Members be given time to go through it and then it be presented for discussion tomorrow. I'll give the chief whip to say something before I proceed.

Chief Whip (Isaya Onyango): Thank you Madam Speaker, I am also in support of the two members' proposal. As the member was moving this motion I was also going through it and had the same feeling that we discuss it tomorrow; but my take is that we should have a special House business meeting tomorrow in the morning

so that we put it in the House business calendar because the Standing order is clear and we need to have a House business committee meeting to include this report in the business schedule. Thank you.

Madam Speaker (Hon. Pamela Omino): I therefore want to put a question that this report be put in the business for tomorrow at 9 am.

Hon. Nereah Okombo: Madam Speaker as you have heard it, the Standing order is very clear that as a House we must have a business calendar and it becomes nearly impossible to discuss it tomorrow morning. Standing order no. 29 gives us room to start business of the House from where it was interrupted a day before but this business has not been interrupted. The only issue is, we want to pass a calendar but what do we have tomorrow morning and in this case according to what the chief whip has said we can allocate it time in the order paper tomorrow through the House business committee but it is impossible to interrupt the business for tomorrow.

Hon. Aggrey Ogosi: Thank you Madam Speaker, this is not allocating time for the said report. The said report is already tabled and seconded. So, what we are doing is that we are continuing with the debate tomorrow. What members are requesting is postponement of the debate until tomorrow. I don't think we have to go into a big debate about this. If the matter on the floor is not concluded it spills over to the next business day and this is spilling over to tomorrow and the other one will be automatically pushed to whatever time. These Standing orders are not cast on stone. The problem with my two colleagues is that they read but they just don't interpret. Thank you.

Chief Whip (Isaya Onyango): Thank you Madam Speaker, I don't want to drug this House on issues that are very clear because that is why we have the house business calendar. It is what guides the house on what is to be done at whatever time. The reason why I was saying this is because tomorrow we already have the Finance Bill in the calendar. It is just a matter of calling the House business committee meeting and slotting this report. We cannot discuss a motion which is not in the House business schedule. It is just simple that we sit tomorrow even if we are few members and slot this.

Hon. Nereah Okombo: Madam Speaker, this house has set a precedence of tabling reports or motions in disregard of our Standing orders. I don't see anything unique about this report that it cannot be discussed now. We write motions or report every other day and present it here without notice. The finance Bill was pushed to tomorrow and it is in the records. We have other businesses for tomorrow. What is so bad about this ECD report that it can't be discussed today and if a member is tired let him/her walk away but if I can't beat them because I know all of them will stand up then let me join them.

Hon. Joseph Osano: Madam Speaker it beats logic, because it is not a must that we have to debate here for 2 hours. This document here can even take 3 days because it is a document that touches the whole County. It is just for us to agree on how we can do it and we go on. Furthermore, it has been moved but we have to understand this document before discussion. It is high time we take our work seriously because this is a very important document. This document was brought here 2 months ago and because of its importance members told the committee to go back and bring a comprehensive report. Today they brought a comprehensive document, why don't we take our time to go through it so that we can discuss a comprehensive thing which can help this County. Thank you.

Hon. Aggrey Ogosi: Madam Speaker, the traditions of all assemblies is that when a matter is before the assembly and it is not concluded for whatever reason it is automatic that the matter is debated the following day or the next business day. This is no exception and I don't think we need to go to our house business calendar. It is automatic that tomorrow when we come here in the morning we shall discuss the report that was presented before this House and even seconded. Thank you.

Hon. Gabriel Ochieng: Point of Order! Thank you Madam Speaker, I just want to correct my colleague hon. Ogosi that when a report or motion has been tabled it is automatic that it starts the next day. The Standing order is very clear that such a matter is within the discretion of the speaker. Standing order no. 55 says that when a question has been proposed, then it is within your discretion as the Speaker to give a date for its discussion not necessarily tomorrow because tomorrow we have other important matter that must be dispensed off. This is very clear in the Standing order and you can give direction on it. Thank you.

Madam Speaker (Hon. Pamela Omino): Thank you Hon. Members, now that the report has been tabled before this House and seconded. I have heard the members concerns and I want to allocate time to this particular report on Thursday because on Thursday we only have one business. I therefore instruct the office of the Clerk that this report appear in the order paper on Thursday at 2:30 pm.

Adjournment

Next order!! *(Silence).* This house stands adjourned until tomorrow at 9 am.

(All Arise)

(Speaker's Procession)

(House Adjourned at 3.00 P.M.)

Addendum

Hansard Reporters

Roseline Awuor

Gladys Chepkong'a

David Ayieko

Dennis Odhiambo