

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

TUESDAY, 8TH JULY, 2025

Afternoon Sitting

3rd County Assembly

4th Session

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

THE DAILY HANSARD

TUESDAY, 8TH JULY, 2025

The House met at the County Assembly Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

(Mr. Speaker [Hon. Emmanuel Situma] in the Chair)

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**VISITING TEACHERS AND STUDENTS OF SALVATION ARMY CHEPTAIS BOYS
HIGH SCHOOL**

Honourable Members, in my communication from the Office of the Speaker is to welcome to this House the visiting delegation. I am pleased to welcome the students and teachers from Salvation Army Cheptais Boys High School, from the Cheptais Ward in Mount Elgon Sub-county. As students, they have come to learn about the County Assembly organisation, practice and the functions as provided in the laws governing the Devolution, Constitution, County Government Act, and the other relevant laws governing us here. The delegation comprises of 54 students. Be upstanding.

(Students stood up)

(Applause)

Kindly resume your seats.

They have been accompanied by four teachers

1. Mr. Joshua Masudi
2. Mr. Alphan Kiboi
3. Mr. Jensen Chemos
4. Brian Kusan

(Teachers stood up)

(Applause)

Kindly be seated.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Honourable Members, at the appropriate time on our Order Paper, during the statement hour, I will be able to allow Honourable Members to make brief encouragement comments about our students in the public gallery. We proceed accordingly.

PAPERS

REPORT OF THE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON LABOUR RELATIONS, MEMBER SERVICES AND FACILITIES ON THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY SERVICE BOARD FOR THE YEAR 2024

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Catherine Kituyi.

Hon. Catherine Kituyi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to table a report on Labour Relations, Member Service and Facilities committee on County Assembly Service Board for the year 2024.

(Paper laid on the floor by Hon. Hon. Catherine Kituyi)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, the report by the sector Committee on Labour Relations and Member Services and Facilities on the County Assembly Service Board for the year 2024 is hereby tabled and formally it becomes the property of the House accordingly.

REPORT OF THE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS FOR THE YEAR 2022 AND 2023

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Orize Kundu.

Hon. Orize Kundu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to table a Report of the Sector Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on Implementation of House Resolutions for the Year 2022 and 2023

(Paper laid on the floor by Hon. Hon. Orize Kundu)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, the report by the sector Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on Implementation of the House Resolutions for the year 2022/2023 is hereby tabled and equally it becomes the property of the House accordingly.

REPORT OF SECTOR COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING ON COUNTY REVENUE FUND QUARTERLY REPORT FOR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 2024

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Orize Kundu, Proceed.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

*Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.
A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Hon. Orize Kundu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to table a report on County Revenue Fund quarterly report and financial statements for the year period ended December 31st, 2024.

(Paper laid on the floor by Hon. Hon. Orize Kundu)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, the report by the Sector Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the County Revenue Fund quarterly reports and Financial Statements for the period ending 31st of December 2024 is hereby tabled by the committee and formally it becomes the property of the House accordingly.

NOTICES OF MOTION

REPORT OF SECTOR COMMITTEE ON LABOUR RELATIONS, MEMBER SERVICES AND FACILITIES ON THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY SERVICE BOARD FOR THE YEAR 2024

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Catherine Kituyi, you proceed and let me give you a microphone.

Hon. Catherine Kituyi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to give a notice of motion that this House adopts the reports of the Sectoral Committee on Labour Relations, Member Service and Facilities on the County Assembly Service Board for the year 2024

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, a notice of motion has been duly issued by the sectoral committee on Labour Relations and Member Services and Facilities on the County Assembly Service Board for the year 2024. I do urge the table Clerks to share this report with the MCAs.

The same will be coming up as a motion on an Order Paper in the course of the week or one that seems scheduled by the HBC on an Order Paper accordingly.

Next,

REPORT ON THE SECTOR OF SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION FOR THE YEAR 2022 AND 2023 AND REPORT ON COUNTY REVENUE FUND QUARTERLY REPORT FOR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 2024

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Orize Kundu, proceed. You can have them done simultaneously because they are from the same committee.

Hon. Orize Kundu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to give notice of motion that this House adopts the report on the Sector of Sectoral Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on Implementation of House resolution for the year 2022 and 2023.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

*Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.
A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Mr. Speaker: Read the next one also that I do the commitment simultaneously.

Hon. Orize Kundu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice of motion that this House adopts the report of the Sector Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the County Revenue Fund quarterly report and financial statements for the year period ended December 31st, 2024.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Orize Kundu, Honourable Members, the notices of motions have been issued by the Sector Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the report on the Implementation of the House Resolutions for the year 2022 / 2023 and report on the County Revenue Fund Quarterly Reports and Financial Statements for the year ending 31st of December, 2024.

Equally, I urge the Clerks to share with the Honorable Members on their gadgets. They will be coming up as motions on an Order Paper once it is scheduled by the HBC.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Statement number two, 10 of 2025 by Member from Mbakalo Hon. Bernard Kikechi.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Bernard Kikechi is not in, is there anyone standing in for him? There's none? If there's nobody standing in for him, it's taken back to HBC. Yes, if the owner is not around, and you know when you hold a brief, you must be able to proceed. Not just say I'm standing in for him. You are able to proceed. If the neighbors are quiet, why are you forcing them to accept these instructions? Honourable chair for the Committee on Education, if you have a response, there's no honor, we can't, and we can't insist going on with it.

Next item,

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Waiti Wafula,

Hon. Waiti Wafula: I'm standing in for Hon. Bernard Kikechi

Mr. Speaker: You are over-ruled; you have been looking at me Hon. Waiti Wafula. You cannot say that you didn't hear.

Hon. Waiti Wafula: I was a bit dossing, Honourable Speaker, just allow me.

Mr. Speaker: What are you confessing? You are doing what? Were you resting your eyes or what were you doing?

Hon. Waiti Wafula: I was resting my eyes.

Mr. Speaker: Let's allow him because we are going for recess so that he takes the response.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

**PROGRESS REPORT TO A STATEMENT IN RELATION TO BUDGETARY
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL AND LEARNING
MATERIALS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION AND
EQUIPPING OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTERS IN THE DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Christine Mukhongo, Proceed!

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of Chair Education, we have the response for Hon. Bernard Kikechi.

Mr. Speaker: Make it very clear; is it a response or progress report because if you are having a response... proceed.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: We have the response. I hereby submit a progress report.

Mr. Speaker: That can't be a response! That's what I'm refusing.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Okay, it is the progress report.

Mr. Speaker: Proceed, now I'm seeing people hiding in the afternoon session, proceed.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. So this is a progressive report from Committee on Education and Vocational Training.

I hereby submit a progress report, pursuant to provision of Standing Order No. 54 of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders on the statement sought by Hon. Bernard Kikechi in relation of budgetary implementation of the programme of technical and learning materials for early childhood development education and equipping of Vocational Training Centers in the department.

The Committee on Education and Vocational Training considered the statement and directed County Executive Committee Member to provide a response on issue raised in the statement via a letter CAB/ CC/SEC/Vol. IV/14. The CCM Education and Vocational Training response is yet to reach and be considered by the committee as of today despite the letter directing the department to submit by 26th June, 2025.

I hereby request for 14 days to enable the Committee and the owner of the statement to consider the response from the County Executive Committee Member in relation to budgetary implementation on the programme of teaching and learning materials for early

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

childhood development education, ECDE, and equipping of vocational training Centers, Vocational Centers in the department and report to this House.

Mr. Speaker: Have you heard what you are seeking in the last part of your statement?

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Yes, Hon. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Read that last part of it and see what you are seeking.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Okay, the last part says that we request 14 days.

Mr. Speaker: Now, read the entire paragraph of what you are requesting and analyze it yourself first because it's very confusing.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Okay, I hereby request for 14 days to enable the committee and the owner of the statement to consider the response from the County Executive Committee Member in relation to budgetary implementation on the program of teaching and learning material for early childhood development and the equipping of vocational training centers.

Mr. Speaker: I will give you the 14 days but what I have discovered about the Department of Education is postponing everything like some other members have mentioned. So I will give you the 14 days and you must have a feedback, failure to which we are going to have the CEC in this House. Take it from me, we won't be taking any more of your progress statements.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Noted, Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Allan, what is the issue?

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Thank you, Speaker. I was just raising over the same, what you have already pronounced. Last week you pronounced yourself over the said Department that if they fail to bring responses on the statements by the Honourable members here, you will ask the CECM and the Chief Officer to be here.

Mr. Speaker: The beautiful part is that both responses are to come on that same day of 22nd of July; if they fail, don't ask for more time. This floor has enough space for the CECM and Chief Officer to appear in person and give us responses. Yes, Leader of the Majority.

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: Thank you, Speaker. I don't know what is so technical for this House again to allocate more than 14 days. So does it mean that we are going to take almost two months just seeking what was budgeted for and the Department was able to procure and share the VTCs and ECDEs?

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

So adding more time again although we are going for short recess maybe that could be the reason but to me our core mandate in this County is for VTC and ECDE materials. And the Department did but unable to come up with it. So I am agreeing because we have a short recess ahead of us. Otherwise, let's be patient and we shall see.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Christine, you are given the 14 days and you must have the feedback. Equally, the Chair is aware that you sought similar time again for the other statements. So you will have it on 22nd of July 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I think now we will be able to have a few remarks from Honourable members. I think I will start with the host, MCA, Hon. Martin Chemorion will start.

ENCOURAGEMENT MESSAGES TO TEACHERS AND STUDENTS OF SALVATION ARMY CHEPTAIS BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Hon. Martin Cheseto: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance. Foremost, I want to appreciate the institution, you Speaker, the Clerk of the County Assembly for accepting the delegation from Cheptais High School to come visit, learn and observe whatever happens in this August House, which is a House of the representative for the wards.

May I take also this opportunity to welcome the students from Cheptais who are here. This is a House of laws, a House of rules and that is why when you were coming in there, a bell was being rung to usher us in just like the way maybe it also happens in your school.

So, for members, I want to give you a brief about Cheptais High School. This is a school which was started by parents under the guidance of the Salvation Army. You know Salvation Army is a church in that region. It is actually the main church that has established so many institutions, learning institutions, the ECDEs, the primary schools and the secondary schools.

So it has worked very hard to ensure that people from that end get enlightened in terms of education, acquisition and also in terms of religion, the Christian kind of religion so that we can live in a Godly way.

Cheptais High School is a school I also schooled way back in the 90s. The school has actually churned out so many students and in that region, that school is an academic powerhouse. It has changed that part of the Mt. Elgon region and neighboring northern part of Busia, that is Teso, the Sirisia and of course the entire County and the entire country.

So, for your information, this House has four honorable members who have passed through that school; those are MCAs for Chesikaki, Chepyuk, Khalaba and me the MCA for Cheptais.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

So in terms of statistics of proportionality, this House consists of about 10.5% honorable members who passed through Cheptais in terms of male because we are about 38 male Honorable Members, but if it is the entire House then we are actually 6.5%. The Cheptais High School has four alumni. So whatever decisions that is made in this county...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Chemorion, I have a challenge when you are saying 10.5, because a human cannot be half. He is either full, because this thing arose in the Senate where they were saying that the quorum is 3.5 or not. So...

Hon. Martin Cheseto: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for that guidance. So we are actually 7% of this House, whatever decisions are made for the entire county just count 7% emanates from Cheptais and if you go to the sub-county of Mt. Elgon, we are actually 50%. They are determining the lives or decisions of people of Mt. Elgon sub-county. So Cheptais is actually a giant that live up to their motto of knowledge is power. And that knowledge is here and they are exercising power in this House.

This school has just concluded a very successful County Choir festival, which attracted so many learners and community members. I believe the community around benefited. Even the infrastructure within that region was also improved courtesy of this County Assembly because we pass projects in our budget and with that, definitely I know we are deriving benefits.

Additionally, I just want to encourage the students. I know when they started their fourth form, they must have set their targets. Some have set to get As, A-, Bs We are almost reaching the home stretch and I want to encourage you to end it strong by ensuring that you work hard, do practice, prepare well and do as many exams as possible whenever your teachers are giving you because the life ahead is for the enlightened.

There is no room for people who are going to be lazy because if you become complacent, definitely you cannot achieve your dream or your goal because the life ahead is so competitive and of course, there is the survival of the fittest. The strong will survive and maybe the weak will be pushed away.

With those remarks, As you go home greet other teachers at school and when you reach home during August holiday, kindly pass our regards to the parents because most of the parents are my voters and they did have confidence in me and that is why they gave me this position of leadership. And of course, I promise not to disappoint them.

To teachers, take care of these students. I know these are alpha generation. I hope they are not going to copy the Gen Zs, it is a mix of Gen Zs and alpha. Play a positive role.

Mr. Speaker: Let us have one speaker, please proceed.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Hon. Martin Cheseto: Just play your part. Play your role and ensure that this country stays intact by at least participating in building cohesion, coexisting among yourselves because you come from different backgrounds, so that we can encourage maybe harmony within the country. So as you head home let your motto, “knowledge is power”, continue burning. Acquire knowledge, then come exercise power later in life. The way we the four and other Honorable Members are exercising now.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Cheseto. Hon. Hentry Nyongesa, proceed.

(Loud Consultations)

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to thank the teachers of Cheptais High School for seeing wise to have the students take this trip so that they can learn through this Assembly. I am a member of Salvation Army. Those missionaries started on a mountain before rolling down to Busia and they ended up in Bumula where I also come from.

I want to thank the entire community of Cheptais for electing Hon. Chemorion to represent the community in this House. To the students, I want to take this opportunity to give them the open cheque that you can only enjoy in this country if you have performed well in school and not just performed well but being disciplined.

Growing up, I also admired to be a student of Cheptais Sirisia which I didn't manage but I managed through a local school but all the same, Hon. Chemorion said that the motto of the school encourages the student. If you want to compete in this country and sit on the table of the highest person in this country or maybe to call you Father-in-Law because your child can only be found in Nairobi University, Moi University...

So, if we admire to have such a life in future then they must aim high. You should work hard to be lawyers, Doctors, Surveyors and teachers like the ones we have here. We have Hon. Francis Chemion as a role model from that community. So I'm urging you to be disciplined, listen to the teachers because they are your nearest parents in school and also respect your real parents at home.

Above all, as members have been alluding to this issue of Gen Zs, this is the title we are being given but we have to be disciplined so that we survive. But others who are not even in that age group are behaving badly and are causing a lot of havoc in this country. So, we are urging our children to get disciplined and observe the laws of this country. At the earliest time, we wish them the best of luck.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Hentry. Hon. Cornelius,

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I join my colleague and fellow alumni from Cheptais Boys Hon. Chemorion to welcome the students from Cheptais Boys and their teachers to this County Assembly of Bungoma. I was there only for two years that was 1989 and 1990. But I'm happy that they are here; I can remember those memories. They were dear to me and they are still dear to me.

It was a premier school by that time and I hope it's still. It was at par with the other school called Kapsokwony; they were the best boys school in Mt. Elgon. Those days, I remember the head boy was like a principal. I remember that is when we had what we called monolizing, I was given my shoes to call my mom. I never knew we shall have mobiles, but I had that shoe on my ear, and I called my mom. Head boys were caning us more than teachers. So I have a lot of memories.

This is the school that made me go to Nairobi for the first time. We participated in choir, set piece, that took us to Nairobi. So this is the school that I will ever remember.

I was playing number six in the football team and one time we played with Kibabii which was also the host. The match was even abandoned because we fought and we were taken to Bokoli to play a rematch and we really fought again. I remember those days, it was no joke.

Again for them to have the first school bus, it was our parents who contributed and it was a bus that was a model of a lorry. It was a Leyland lorry named Comet. It was a school bus so when I see them here, it takes me back memory lane.

This is a school that even during our time when we were going there, when we were travelling, we used a company bus called Mawingo and it was scheduling their trips. So you could wake up at four to catch that bus to school. When you missed it you had to wait for another matatu. I have forgotten but sometimes you could even not even make it. So I just want to wish these students success in their academic journey. This is a school that does very well and I hope due to Devolution, during our time we were going to Nairobi to see what the National Assembly does and we could plan for days, but thanks to Devolution. I think the trip can just be planned within a week. Then they make it and it used to cost us a lot. So teachers who are here and the students when you go back, you have just been told that this Assembly, the Third Assembly of Bungoma the largest number of the leaders come from Cheptais. So...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Cornelius, you are misleading!

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: Sorry?

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Mr. Speaker: Even me I want to know because when I was in Form 1 you were in Form 4 and it was only in Cheptais. So I'm wondering. Hon. Vitalis can confirm when we were in Form 1, you were in the fourth form, and it was not in Cheptais.

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: So whether you are alumni of Cheptais or Bokoli High School, we will be able to know after this meeting.

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: I told you Form 1 and Form 2, I was in Cheptais, before I moved to Bokoli.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, proceed!

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: So it's a school that produces leaders. So I wish these students success in their education so that you become also leaders. And when you go back, I just want to wish you safe journey back to school and success in your forthcoming exams.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Cornelius. Hon. Kirong, be brief please.

Hon. Joan Kirong: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance to say something about Cheptais High School. First of all, I take this opportunity to welcome students and teachers from Cheptais High School to this Honourable House.

Cheptais High School is one of the best schools in Mount Elgon. I know some of the students from my ward are learning in this school. And I want to take this time just to encourage the students as the mother that work hard, use your time in school. Because the way you will perform will determine your future life. I want also to urge the students to be disciplined in school. Currently we are losing a lot of indiscipline children in the name of Gen Zs, so I want to tell the students that respect your teachers and adhere to the school rules. Also respect your teachers and the state.

Lastly, as you are aware that Cheptais is one of the best schools that we depend on as Mt. Elgon Sub County in terms of good results, kindly uphold the same status for the good name of the school and the region.

So I will end there. And if you go back home take our greetings and thank your parents for voting in Mheshimiwa Cheseto as the MCA of Cheptais.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Chemion,

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. On behalf of the good people of Kaptama, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the presence of our team from

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Cheptais High School. This is a school that is well known across this region both in terms of academic work and also in co-curricular activities. If you check on records, you will realize that this is a school that has represented Mount Elgon, Bungoma, and Western Region at the nationals in very many fields in co-curricular activities.

And it has also produced some of the best professionals that we have in this country. Some of them even work in our County government. And therefore we give credit to the teaching staff of the school because without the effort of the teachers, it becomes very impossible for learners to perform very well.

So teachers, having been your colleague, I want to encourage you that continue doing what you are doing. And this is the only profession that is equated with the profession of Jesus Christ. And teachers are encouraged and they are told they will be paid in heaven. But that should not be the case. They should also be paid here on earth, so that they feel that what they do is appreciated. So any government of the day must ensure that teachers' welfare is taken care of because if there are professionals who work diligently then they are the teachers of this country.

Secondly, I want to tell the students that we have very many laws. I will only mention one law of compensation. If you don't do the right thing now in the near future you will do it under punishment and in old age. So if you don't wake up very early today to go to class, read, after school you will be forced by circumstances and the environment to wake up even at 3 a.m. So please follow instructions from the teachers and work very hard.

I want to also thank the people of Cheptais. We have one of the most vibrant MCAs in this Honourable House. Hon. Cheseto Martin is the Vice Chair of a committee that is doing wonders in our words. Hon. Cheseto is a very good debater, is a well-seasoned researcher. He brings a lot of wealth to this Honourable House.

So the people of Cheptais, teachers, as you go back and the students you have a very important person in this Honourable House. Your issues are raised and articulated here each and every time Hon. Martin Chemorion Cheseto speaks. So you did good work, if it continues the next five years and maybe others you will do a lot. Thank you for according me this chance to make a statement.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Francis. Hon. Psero, proceed.

Hon. Jacob Psero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir for this opportunity. On my own behalf and on behalf of the people of Chesikaki and the Chairman Education who is with us and has travelled from far, I wish to take this opportunity to join my colleagues the MCAs in welcoming the students of Salvation Army Cheptais High School to this Honorable House. I

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

want to inform the students of this school that the person talking is a former student of that same school you are in.

(Applause)

I was in that school sometimes back when even some of us here had not been born. That was in 1976 in form one and I was travelling from my village which is 10 kilometers away to and from school. So in a day I was covering 20 kilometers but that did not discourage me. It gave me the encouragement to continue learning and that is why I am here. I want to thank the teachers of Cheptais High School for ensuring that they bring these students to this particular Honorable House which is a replica of the National Assembly. What happens in this House is similar to what is happening in the National Assembly. All the items you are seeing in this House including the HANSARD system are similar to what you can be able to find in the National Assembly. So instead of going to Nairobi, it's cheaper to come to this particular place.

I'm proud to be associated with Cheptais high school because this is a school that I led as a principal for four years before proceeding to this place. It is that particular school that made me to come here. The good job I did in Cheptais High School propelled me to this Assembly. Had it not been what I did in the school, I would not be here and that is why I want to sincerely thank the teachers who are here led by the head of delegation Mr. Masudi, a man from my clan popularly known as Mazuri.

I do not know why the students were calling him Mazuri but I want to believe it was the good performance in history. He is a history teacher and every student liked him in that particular school I guess even these ones in the gallery. So the teachers did a good job, it enabled us travel far. It gave me an opportunity to travel to Kampala, Mombasa and others places with my teachers and we really celebrated and ate good things including in Mombasa.

I wish to inform the students that this House has some various functions, we have two Coalitions; the Majority side led by the Majority Leader and deputized by the Deputy Majority Leader who are just seated here. Another coalition is the Minority side which you can be able to see and from the word minority, it means they are fewer than the other one but they are doing the same job. All of us are doing oversight which is one of the most important functions of this House. We ensure we oversight the Executive; that is the Governor's office and the rest to ensure they do justice and good work in our Wards including the roads that are used in the villages.

Secondly, we also do legislation; we pass laws and policies in this House that govern various activities within the County; for instance we used to have bursary given out. That was the function of this House and these members to ensure that we serve the students with bursaries to enable you do the learning well and that is what we did until recently when some organizations in the Government stopped that activity until later on. In case it comes back, I want to believe you will be informed accordingly.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

We also do representation; we represent the people that elected us. Your teachers participated in elections and they chose us so, whatever we do here we do it on behalf of those people that elected us. Those are the main roles that we have here plus others that your history teachers will be able to pass to you.

I want to believe there is a group that educated you and you know what is happening. My colleagues' teachers, I want to tell you that this House has a number of teachers. Today all teachers in this House are not in, but we have few of them Hon. Chemion, Allan Nyongesa, Christine Mukhongo, Angeline Rugut and we have a famous teacher of *Gumbaro*. Today he is not here,

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Psero, I am having a challenge of how my HANSARD people will write *Gumbaro* word in their document. So the owner of that word Hon. Otsiula going forward, kindly avoid it. Proceed!

Hon. Jacob Psero: Understood, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the direction. Otherwise, I am very grateful to the teachers for bringing these students to this Assembly, and to the students when you go back home during August holiday, kindly pass our greetings to them. My colleague who is my neighbor; Chesikaki and Cheptais are neighbors, Hon. Martin Cheseto, he is doing a very good job. We work together and occasionally when there are functions in either Cheptais or Chesikaki, we support each other.

I kindly request students through your parents to re-elect Hon. Cheseto in the year 2027 because he is a man we are proud about. He does very good things in this particular House. Otherwise, I rest my case.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Psero. Allow me on behalf of the rest of the Honorable members present, the Assembly Administration and the leadership of the House to wish the students of Salvation Army Cheptais High School the best in their studies, and for teachers we cannot reward you enough in this world, but just do your best so that you have very good children or parents in future.

Next item,

MOTION

REPORT OF THE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON FIRST AND SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Mr. Speaker: Yes, the mover Hon. Ipara!

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Hon. Speaker, without fear I want to call upon the Education committee members to stand up for accountability, kindly!

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Mr. Speaker: Honorable members, I will have to clarify, the Committee members at the time of this report. Hon. Rugut, Ken, Hentry, Ali Machani, Benjamin, Joan Kiron'g, Psero, Simotwo, Chikati Wangila. I think from what you are seeing, the quorum is overflowing. Proceed!

(Applause)

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Thank you Hon. Speaker. Even today we are the majority in the House.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Ipara, proceed!

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, this is the committee on Education and Vocational Training ,a report on Half Year Financial Statement for the Financial Year 2024/2025 for the period ended 31st December 2024.On page 2 is table of contents.

Preamble

It is my duty to present the report by the Committee of Education and Vocational Training on the Half Year Financial Statements for the Financial Year 2024/2025 for the period ended 31st December, 2024. The Half Year Financial Statements was tabled in this County Assembly of Bungoma on 5th April, 2025 and stood committed to all Sectorial Committees for their interrogation, input and recommendation through a report to this Honorable House. Mandate of the committee. With your permission, I want to leave it out.

Committee Membership

The committee currently is constituted by the following members.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1. Hon. Benjamin Otsiula | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Stephen Kaiser | - | V/Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Joan Kiron'g | - | Member |
| 4. Hon. Ali Machani | - | Member |
| 5. Hon. Jack Kawa | - | Member |
| 6. Hon. Hentry Nyongesa | - | Member |
| 7. Hon. Christine Mukhongo | - | Member |
| 8. Hon. Abraham Obama | - | Member |
| 9. Hon. Aggrey Mulongo | - | Member |
| 10. Hon. Jacob Psero | - | Member |
| 11. Hon. Simotwo Franklin | - | Member |
| 12. Hon. Timothy Chikati | - | Member |
| 13. Hon. Wangila Vitalis | - | Member |
| 14. Hon. Charles Nangulu | - | Member |
| 15. Hon. Ipara Okasida | - | Member |

Guiding principles in the Examination of the Bungoma County Government Quarterly Reports and Financial statements

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

In the execution of its mandate, the Committee on Education and Vocational Training is given a legal backing under the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Public Finance Management Act, 2012, County Governments Act, 2012. These statutory provisions include:

With your permission, I leave the details of:

1. Constitutional Principles on Public Finance
2. Direct Personal Liability
3. Obligations of Accounting Officers

Acknowledgment

I take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Committee for dedicating their time to interrogate the Half Year Financial Statements for the Financial Year 204/25, for the period ended 31st December 2024. The Committee would also like to appreciate the Secretariat for its commitment. Lastly, the Committee is grateful to your office and the office of the Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma for logistical support received as it discharged its mandate.

It is therefore my privilege, on behalf of the Committee on Education and Vocational Training, to move the Report on the Half Year Financial Statements with respect to the Department of Education and Vocational Training for Financial Year 2024/2025 for the period ended 31st December, 2024.

The report is signed by Hon. Benjamin Otsiula, MCA, Khasoko Ward.
Chairperson, Committee on Education and Vocational Training

KEY HIGHLIGHTS ON THE HALF YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024/2025

Revenue

The total budget for Education and Vocational Training for the financial year 2024/25 was Kshs. 1,631,681,111 as per the approved annual budget comprising of a total of Kshs. 1,470,531,111 recurrent budget and Kshs. 161,150,000 development budget.

The department does not rely on any other source of revenue other than exchequer releases.

Expenditure

The total expenditure budget for the period was Kshs. 726,428,879.63 representing 44.5% of budget absorption.

BUDGET EXECUTION BY PROGRAMMES AND SUB-PROGRAMMES

Under Recurrent, with an approved budget of Kshs. 1,470,531,111, the department absorbed Kshs. 726,428,879.63 translating to 49.4% of the recurrent vote.

This is broken down as follows;

1. Human resource (Basic salary) had an allocation of Kshs. 1,197,255,254 with absorption of Kshs.594, 257,247.63 representing 49.6% of the salary vote. During

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

interrogations the Department submitted an expenditure of Kshs.586, 574,999 translating to a variance of Kshs. 7,682,248.63.

2. Domestic Travel and Subsistence with an allocation of Kshs.6, 500,000 (Kshs.2, 500,000 for ECDE and Kshs.4, 000,000 for VTCs) had an expenditure of Kshs. 1,802,900.
3. Training expenses with an allocation of Kshs.1, 035,857 had an expenditure of Kshs. 290,000.
4. Hospitality with an allocation of Kshs.6, 000,000 had an expenditure of Kshs. 504,132.75.
5. Fuel oil and lubricants with an allocation of Kshs.1, 500,000 had an expenditure of Kshs. 750,000.
6. Education support services (bursary and Scholarship) with an allocation of Kshs. 225,000,000 utilized Kshs. 128,824,600 representing 57.3% absorption.
7. Printing and advertisement (Kshs.700,000), Insurance cost (Kshs.200,000), office general supplies (1,500,000), routine maintenance of motor vehicle (Kshs. 500,000) and School feeding program (Kshs.30,000,000) had no absorption during the period under review.

Under Development expenditure with an allocation of Kshs.161, 150,000, there was nil absorption for the following programs;

1. Supply of ECDE learning materials with an approved allocation of Kshs.23,000,000
2. Infrastructure development (Ward Based Project) with an approved budget of Kshs. 98,150,000
3. Equipping of VTCs with an allocation of Kshs. 25,000,000
4. VTC tuition grant and transfer with an allocation of Kshs. 15,000,000.

However, during the interrogations, the Department submitted to have had an expenditure of Kshs. 13,063,113 on development under the following votes; supply of learning materials (Kshs. 10,220,378) and equipping of VTCs (Kshs. 2,842,735)

Accounts Payable

The department had a total of Kshs. 241,241,281.77 with Kshs. 228,281,614.77 relating to development and Kshs. 12,959,667 relating to recurrent as accounts payables.

During interrogations, the department submitted that Kshs. 109,215,245.56 related to commitments whereas Kshs. 119,660,369.21 was the actual accounts payable.

Accounts Receivable

The department had no outstanding imprests at the end of the period under review.

Bank Balances

There was a declaration of bank balance of Kshs. 4,570,258.68 in the various accounts of the VTCs in the County while the VTC project account had a balance of Kshs. 280,646.

Additionally the bank balances for the Educational Support Scheme Accounts at KCB was Kshs. 425 while the opening balance was Kshs. 3,678,425

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Committee General Observations

The Committee made the following observations

1. There were discrepancies in reporting as figures submitted in the Financial Statements by the Treasury did not match with what the department of education submitted. For instance, the expenditure of Kshs. 13,063,113 on development by the Department whereas the County Treasury submitted nil expenditure and the personnel expenditure having a variance of Kshs. 7,682,248.63 between the submissions from the County Treasury and the Department.
2. The department did not receive any allocations on education support scheme despite the treasury submitting that they received Kshs. 225,000,000. The submitted figure relates to the balances brought forward from financial year 2023/2024
3. Some of the contractors did not have the capacity as they never reported to sites after entering into contracts with the county Government. Additionally, The Department of Education and that of public works have not inspected completed projects. These errors or omissions and commissions are what contribute to the ever ballooning pending bills.
4. Development of youth Polytechnics/VTCs had an allocation of Kshs. 15 M but the department did not receive money during the period under review.
5. There was no allocation in the budget for pending bills despite the department indicating that they had pending bills of Kshs. 228,281,614.77.
6. There was no policy for school feeding program in ECDEs.

Committee Recommendations

The Committee made the following recommendations.

1. **THAT**, the treasury, should engage the department in reconciling figures to curb on discrepancies while reporting.
2. **THAT**, the treasury should facilitate timely release of funds on development of ECDEs and Vocational Training Centers as it is one of core mandates of the Education Department.
3. **THAT**, the procurement department should consider contracting firms with capacity to reduce stalling or incomplete projects.
4. **THAT**, the treasury and the department should prioritize timely settling of pending bills in the Education Department worth Kshs. 228,281,614.77.
5. **THAT**, the procurement processes should commence on time to avoid delays in implementation of the projects.
6. **THAT**, projects being retendered should adopt the most convenient method to ensure the projects are awarded and completed within the Financial Year.
7. **THAT**, the department should fast track formulation of school feeding program policy.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Honourable Speaker, the schedule is signed as indicated there and I want now with your permission to call upon...I don't know what Hon. Martin is laughing...

(Laughter)

At this juncture, I want to call the Chair of the committee to second the report.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Otsiula, you have the honor of seconding the committee report.

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. First of all, I wish to appreciate Hon. Okasida for moving the report within very reasonable period of time and I can see members are happy and they are all smiles.

In its very nature, the report is very brief, and perhaps one of the key issues to note is that there were serious discrepancies in reporting especially when you look at the figures submitted by the County Treasury and those submitted by the department. This mismatch has for a long period of time been causing trouble and I think members should take note that what this committee was doing was to flag out the discrepancy and if you look at the report, we have given an example of KShs.13,663,113 which was reported on development by the Department while the County Treasury was reporting nil expenditure. This is serious and going forward, it is very important that the Department and the County Treasury reconcile figures before submitting their reports. This occurrence means either the department submits a different figure to the Treasury or the treasury is submitting figures without having concurrence with the department and this brings a lot of miscommunication as far as the figures are concerned.

On the issue of contractors; many projects were awarded to contractors who lacked capacity and this affected the implementation of projects. Most projects stalled and some did not even kick off. Going forward, the department is advised that during procurement period; let those contractors with capacity be considered. Several ECDs were never constructed due to failure by contractors to report to the site. This will affect the budget implementation for the department and so in future, the department should engage only qualified contractors.

Finally, there was no allocation in the budget for pending bills which stood at KShs.228,281,614. It becomes very difficult to clear pending bills and the committee recommended that moving forward, the County Treasury and even the department itself must prioritize the issue of settling pending bills.

Members in this House are aware that a feeding program for ECDE students was launched by His Excellency the Governor this year and in the current budget, KShs.40Million was provided for the said purpose. However, there is no policy in place to implement this program. The committee has also challenged the Department to forward the policies to the House for approval so that this program can be sustainable and it has explained that Finance Department has failed to provide funds to enable the Department to finalize on the issue of policies. They claim that policies are ready but for them to move to the next stage, they need sufficient funding. Therefore as I pray that my colleagues in the House approve the report, I believe the Department must also move with urgency to ensure that the policies are in place. I second the motion.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ipara for moving the report and Hon. Otsiula for seconding the report equally as the Chair of the Committee. Honourable members, allow me be able to propose a motion for debate.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. First, I want to laud the mover and the seconder of the report. This is the only Department that I'm hearing and reading that it has no outstanding imprests. That is a positive thing that we can say about the Department, because most of the reports that we have been receiving have been having huge figures on outstanding imprests. For this report, we can now learn that all imprest have been surrendered.

The feeding program policy that the report recommends that it is fast-tracked. For what is happening is illegal because we don't have the policy and we must fast-track it to ensure that we are within the terms of the law.

On the provision of pending bills monies; that is the area that this County Assembly and the Executive must put a lot of effort and even what has been given to us through what has been signed today by His Excellency the President, the amount that will be added to Bungoma, a big chunk of it should go towards servicing this area because we have those suppliers who have done work in our county and they have not been paid. We must focus there now so that we ensure we provide monies.

The pending bills in Education Department is not as small as we may think, because most of the constructions that have been done in the department have not been paid. We need to provide enough money to the department to ensure that they pay their contractors. The report is very clear and if the department will work on these observations and recommendations, this department will go very far.

The issue of having contractors who do not meet the threshold is a very big issue. Last financial year, I allocated Kshs 6 Million for 4 ECDE Centres in my Ward and as we speak, the only activity that was done was handing over the site, the contractors disappeared in thin air and that it has impacted negatively to the people of my Ward. The young people in those 4 schools are not getting the service that they require because of such type of contractors that are given work, they don't have ability.

I don't know which means they use to get these contracts and yet they do not have the resources to do the work. Even the KShs.2 Million that was awarded by the Budget Committee to the 45 wards, nothing has happened in my Ward and I wish the mover also looks into it because we had KShs.90Million for the 45 Wards and nothing has been done on site.

Some areas we had issues of procurement like one of the schools that I had identified in my Ward. The contractor has never been awarded due to a failed procurement process. Whose responsibility is this? It is the responsibility of the Chief Officer, the procurement department and the CECM to ensure that what is allocated is implemented. Otherwise, we will be doing zero work to allocate money to projects that are not done in our Wards.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

I am not a happy man as I speak because the department has led the people of my Ward down and not even my Ward alone but the entire County.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Chemion. Hon. Ipara, Proceed.

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Honourable Speaker Sir, let me laud the Chairperson who seconded this report and highlighted various serious issues. If you fail to reconcile records, you are bound to give wrong figures out and that is why you find that most of the time we are dealing with wrong figures and that's why we did insist as a committee that the reconciliation is mandatory, both for the treasury and other respective departments.

I totally agree with both the Honourable Chairman and the seconder. Some projects numbering to 12 Wards, they were tendered and it did not attract any bidder and that means that they are being re-tendered during this new financial year but the only savior is the accrual system that has come in. That is the only thing that will save us.

I also tend to agree with Hon. Chemion that all departments, and not only the Education Department should strive to make sure that those who were awarded works have proven record, showing that they were previously tested, and are capable to discharge what has been given.

The worrying thing on the Kshs 2, 000,000 is that award letters were given last week at the end of the financial year meaning that implementation is now beginning. So we shall be patient a bit to allow them hand over the sites. Most of those sites have not been handed over and we want to believe that they will do it this week, after they have signed those acceptance letters for purposes of that.

I also want to applaud the department of Education for not having outstanding imprest and maybe this should now be a starting point that we should make sure other departments copy what they did. They succeeded to do so under the guidance of the Chair of that committee, who has also been hard on them that he did not want to hear anything but see a clean sheet on imprest. I want to laud the Chair for that.

With that, I want to plead with the Honourable Members. This is a good report, particularly when you hear that we have advised the department to come up with a feeding program policy which will give guidance. The policy guidance is about equity and inclusiveness, where what is given to Kaptama is what has been given to Khasoko and Tongaren respectively, other than it is right now. If anybody challenges it today, I think this program will not continue because there is nothing that guides it. It is being guided today by the Governor's directive. I want to plead with the Honourable Members. Kindly, let us approve this report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ipara for replying to the Motion. Honourable Members, allow me to proceed and be able to put a question to the said motion.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.

A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

Honourable Members that was the last Motion we had on our Order Paper. We will adjourn our sitting for today and resume on Wednesday 9th July, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

The House rose at: 4:04 p.m.

Version: 00

Revision: 00

Disclaimer: *The electronic Version of the official Hansard Report is for information purposes only.
A certified Version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*