

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE HANSARD

TUESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER, 2022

Afternoon Sitting

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

HANSARD OFFICIAL REPORT

TUESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER, 2022

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

(Temporary Speaker [Hon. Christine Mukhongo] in the Chair)

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): With us we have a visiting school; St. Veronica High School - Ranje.

When you hear your name you will be up standing;

1. Teresa Mbinga
2. Sarah Navututu
3. Judith Mukhwana
4. Delphine Murumba
5. Rubia Veronica
6. Bramwel Juma
7. Titus Wekesa
8. Timothy Amuli
9. Anne Wafula
10. Boniface Muhando
11. Jackline Maloba

12. Colleta Wamalwa
13. Karen Barasa
14. Ruth Wanjala
15. Nickson Simiyu
16. Peris Wafula
17. Yvonne Wekesa
18. Mary Wamalwa
19. Barasa Cyse
20. Wangila Jairus
21. Ongati Kageha
22. Sandra Leah Munjuma
23. Esther Baraza Kerry Malanda
24. Derrick Wekesa
25. Jacinta Wafubwa
26. Caleb Sirengo

Accompanying the students, we have the following teachers;

1. Ms. Shamilla Ochola
2. Mr. Lewis Munyasia
3. Ms. Chege Lydia

You are most welcome to the County Assembly of Bungoma. Feel at home. As for the students, learn from us. Be seated, please!

The second communication is to elected Members. You are reminded to return the feedback on the pending bills of the Ward based projects in your respective Wards to the Fiscal Analyst offices.

As per the first communication, after the statements, we shall have a few of the Members of the Assembly to comment on our visitors and also advise our learners on what goes on here at the County Assembly. What is expected of them as students as they are here to learn more about how the Assembly is run in the capacity as a replica of the National Assembly. You are most welcome.

PETITION

PETITION BY THE CASUAL EMPLOYEES FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFIRMATION AS EMPLOYEES IN THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): The petition is committed to the Justice, Cohesion and Legal Affairs Committee for processing according to the Standing Orders.

STATEMENTS

1. THE WEEKLY BUSINESS COMING BEFORE THE HOUSE FROM TUESDAY 22ND TO THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER, 2022

Hon. Violet Makhanu: Thank you Madam Speaker. I am on my feet to inform the House on the weekly program of the business of the County Assembly pursuant to Standing Order 42; on the week commencing Tuesday 22nd- 24th November, 2022 for the third County Assembly, third session.

Tuesday which is today 22nd November, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. under the order of business we have

Prayers

1. Administration of oath
2. Communication from the Chair
3. Messages
4. Petitions
 - Petition by the casual employees for confirmation as employees of the County Government of Bungoma.
5. Papers
6. Notices of motion
7. Statements;
 - A statement pursuant to Standing Order 42: A statement informing the County Assembly of the weekly business which I am doing Pursuant to provision of standing order 47,
 - A statement sought by Hon. Jack Wambulwa from the Chairperson sectorial committee on Roads, Transport, Infrastructure and Public Works in relation to information on the

Tabala- Kimwanga and Nakhwana- Kimaeti roads in Kimaeti Ward under the Roads Maintenance Levy Fund.

8. Motions and Bills.

On Wednesday 23rd November, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., the order of business will be

Prayer

1. Administration of oath
2. Communication from the Chair
3. Messages
4. Petitions
5. Papers;
 - The Bungoma County Government First Supplementary budget estimates Financial Year 2022/2023 that will be done by the Leader of Majority Party.
 - Report by the Committee on Appointments on the vetting of the nominee for appointment to the office of the County Executive Committee Member for finance and Economic planning in Bungoma County- Chairperson committee on Appointments
6. Notices of motion
 - That this House adopts the report by the committee on Appointments on the vetting of the nominee for appointment to the office of the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning in Bungoma County
7. Statements
8. Bills and motions
 - The Bungoma County First Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2022. A bill by the County Assembly of Bungoma to authorize the issue of a sum of money out of the Revenue Fund and its application towards the service of the year ending on the 30th June, 2023 and to appropriate that sum and a sum voted on account by the County Assembly for certain public service and purposes- First reading.

On Wednesday 23rd November, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. the order of business will be

Prayer

1. Administration of oath
2. Communication from the Chair
3. Messages
4. Petitions
5. Papers

- Report by Liaison Committee on the apportionment of annual operating budget for financial year 2022/2023 and retreat schedule for County Assembly committees
6. Notices of motion.
 - That this House adopts the report by Liaison Committee on the report of the annual operating budget for FY 2022/2023 and retreat schedule for County Assembly committees that will be done by the chairperson, Liaison Committee.
 7. Statements
 8. Motions;
 - That this House adopts the report by Committee on Appointments on vetting of the nominee for appointment to the office of the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning in Bungoma County.

On Thursday on the 24th of November, at 2:30.p.m. The order of business will be;

Prayer

1. Administration of Oath
2. Communication from the Chair
3. Messages
4. Petitions
5. Papers
6. Notices of motion
7. Statements.
 - Statement Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 47 (2) (c), A Statement sought by Hon. John Kennedy Wanyama from the Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Education & Vocational Training in relation to Muyayi Vocational Training Centre which seems to be ill equipped of both personnel and training equipment; making the institution to have low students' enrolment and almost turning to be a white elephant project done by the County Government.
8. Motions
 - That this House adopts the report by Liaison Committee on the Apportionment of Annual Operating Budgets for Financial Year 2022/2023 and Retreat Schedule for County Assembly Committees. It will be done by the Chairperson, Liaison Committee.

Thank you I table

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): Thank you Hon. Violet, as you submit.

2. A STATEMENT SOUGHT BY HON. JACK WAMBULWA FROM THE CHAIRPERSON, SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS IN RELATION TO INFORMATION ON THE TABALA – KIMWANGA AND NAKHWANA – KIMAETI ROADS IN KIMAETI WARD UNDER THE ROADS MAINTENANCE LEVY FUND

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Thank you Madam Speaker. I wanted to know the status of the Roads Maintenance Levy Funds utilized in my Ward within the financial year of 2019/2020 and 2021 coming up to 2022. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 47(2) (c) of Bungoma County Assembly Standing, I hereby seek for a statement from the Chairperson Sectoral Committee on Roads Transport Infrastructure and Public Works. This is in relation to information on the Tabala- Kimwanga road then Nakhwana - Kimaeti roads in Kimwanga Ward under the Roads Maintenance Levy Fund.

In the response, let the Chairperson inquire into and report on the following;

1. The big use and the total allocation on the mentioned roads
2. The total allocation of the Tabala Bridge and its cost, more so knowing the status of the same bridge.

It is signed by me Hon. Jack Wambulwa- MCA, Kimaeti Ward.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): Thank you Hon. Wambulwa, Chairman Roads?

Hon. Frankline Simotwo: Thank you Madam Speaker, give us two weeks so that we respond on the statement sought by Hon. Jack Wambulwa.

(Loud consultations)

I think if it is now, two weeks maybe after recess.

(Applause)

Madam Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): It shall be calculated, that is alright Hon. Frankline.

Next, we have visitors with us. Students from St. Veronica Ranje High School and they are here to learn more about the County Assembly, a replica of the National Assembly. So Honorable Members you are hereby invited to advice our youngsters who are leaders of tomorrow and

putting in mind this is a school from Hon. Zeddy's Ward, I will start with Hon. Zeddy who is not ready on the microphone. Who wants to welcome his students? Yes Hon. Nangalama?

Hon. Metrine Nangalama: Thank you Madam Speaker. I don't know if we have somebody here by the name of Hon. Zeddy... maybe you can tell us.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): It is Hon. Godfrey Mukhwana. My apologies, welcome Hon. Godfrey.

(Applause)

Hon. Godfrey Mukhwana: Thank you Madam Speaker. What I wanted to say is that human is to error and you see the same Madam Nangalama who is trying to correct you, she always gets mixed when she is seated next to Hon. Nganga, so you should just understand her.

(Laughter)

Thank you Madam Speaker for giving me this chance. First, you see the mood of the House because you didn't mention the Ward where the students are coming from. These children are from West Sang'alo Ward and I want to take this chance to welcome the teachers and students of St. Veronica Ranje Secondary School to come and attend and to learn more about the County Assembly of Bungoma.

The students of St. Veronica Ranje School, this is an examination class and maybe some Members will be shocked why they are only 26. An examination class at St. Veronica Ranje School has about 51 students and because there was a breakdown in communication, that is why the teachers managed to come with only those students taking the History class. It is sponsored by the Roman Catholic Church and most of the schools in my Ward are sponsored by the Catholic Church, followed by Friends' Church then the rest.

Today the teachers have made an effort to come with the students to learn a few things about the County Assembly; how we manage our business on the floor of the House, how we articulate issues; and before they entered this House they have been taken around and most of the questions they had were already answered. When I tried to inquire from them whether they know the role of an Honourable Member, straight away they were able to tell me that the role of the Honorable MCA is legislation, oversight and representation.

So it's a good idea to allow our students to be coming here so that they learn these things practically and when they go back to school, they are able to answer those question.

Based on the geographical location of this school, you find that most of the Wards it borders with are Bukembe East, Bukembe West, Khalaba Ward and Musikoma Ward. Most of the students come from these Wards and are students in my Ward.

So today I just want to urge the students that the examination is around the corner. Let us be focused when we are going to sit for the exams. There is no shortcut and learning is a continuous process. I just wanted to give an example of one Honourable Member who has just left recently. He has had his Masters in CBC...The so called Hon. Mulongo now has a Masters in CBC. So learning is a continuous process. As students, you are not going to end there. Make sure that after your exams, you have steps to move on.

There are those who will go to University straight away and there are those who will join colleges and at the end of the day, you achieve what you want. I want to congratulate the office of the Speaker and the Clerk and the whole Assembly at large for inviting St. Veronica Ranje. Thank you very much, God bless you.

(Applause)

Hon. Everton Nganga: Thank you for giving me this chance. St. Veronica Ranje is a school from my neighboring Ward, which is Sang'alo and I represent East Sang'alo Ward. First I would like to congratulate the teachers for making arrangements to visit this County Assembly. Most teachers or Lecturers use trips as a method of teaching; some use question techniques, group discussions, brainstorming and so on.

Thank you teachers for the work you have done to have this trip. When students come to the County Assembly, they see in reality for example this instrument before us is the mace and is a sign of power. The students will memorize and internalize what they have seen.

Students from St. Veronica Ranje I know you are candidates and I want to tell you that you must work hard and pass your exams. I was also a History student and History is a booster subject. The only leakage I will give is that you will discover that factors that relate to industrialization of Countries like Japan, German, Britain are similar. When you have been asked and you mention all those and that is a leakage and it is 20 Marks.

(Applause)

I would like to inform these students that in this County Assembly, we have the majority party which is the FORD Kenya Party that is seated on the other side and in the whole Nation it is party number seven. The minority Party in this Assembly is D.A.P Kenya which is number five in the whole Country.

(Applause)

If you will be asked to rank, D.A.P Kenya in number five in the whole Nation and that is what they should know. Madam Speaker, protect me from Hon. Jack Wambulwa.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): Hon. Wambulwa, give him time.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa (*On a point of Information*): Madam Speaker, I want to inform my colleague Hon. Nganga that you are trying to highlight how we operate here in Bungoma County. Indeed you have informed the students that we are the majority party. How do you again come and introduce us to number seven? Majority Party will always remain number one. So there is no way you can reduce us to number seven. Just respect FORD Kenya for that is the Party of the day and let the students know that it is FORD Kenya that rules in the County Assembly.

(Applause)

Hon. Everton Nganga: I think I was very clear that the majority party in this County is FORD Kenya and the Minority is D.A.P Kenya, but let me give you a duty to research.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): FORD Kenya is the Majority and D.A.P Kenya is the minority and that is enough.

Hon. Everton Nganga: I have students who school in St. Veronica Ranje Secondary School that come from my Ward. I would like to tell students and teachers from Ranje Secondary School that when you go home, tell your parents that they did a noble job to elect Hon. Zeddy Mukhwana. He is a hard working MCA and they did a wonderful job.

(Applause)

Hon. Jacob Psero: Thank you Madam Speaker for giving me an opportunity to submit my contribution and to encourage the pupils of St. Veronica Ranje. I would like to concur with my colleague Hon. Zeddy who is also my neighbor that knowledge is power and knowledge is continuous.

Pupils from St. Veronica Ranje as you can see, some of us were pupils just like you and I remember when I was in high school, I used to tell myself that as soon as I finish High School, I would be free to do my own things, but I realized that the issue of time is very important in my life.

Honorable Members you see here today, we are here and if you are not keen in time management, you will miss out on very important discussions or legislation. So time management is very important for pupils and students. I would also like to encourage you that

now you have a few days to sit for your National Exams, relax, take it easy and I know you will make it. Right now if you looked at our Country, there is a lot of competition especially in academics. Pupils are really competing, but I think what you learned is what will help you in your exams.

My last encouragement is that don't forget God. The genesis of success is when you give God a chance in your life. I remember I was a C.U Chairman, Organizer and that has helped me a lot even in my life today to deal with people and even in leadership. So mine is just to encourage you and thank you so much Hon. Zeddy for having led your school to come and visit us. God bless you Ranje, I wish you success and that is my prayer.

(Applause)

Hon. Ali Machani: Thank you. I don't want to get into confusion of calling you madam and then Speaker; I may end up calling you Sir. I want to thank you Speaker for allowing me to join the speakers on this floor. I also wish to thank him for making it possible for the St. Veronica Ranje students to be in this House. It is not easy for the Honourable Member to be in the House when the students are seated. I think I may borrow that humility in him.

I also thank your office, from where you are, there is something St. Veronica Ranje are learning from you; the way you are seated, the way you are composed and the way you are dressed. From my own reasoning, you are trying to show the students that one day God willing they can occupy that seat. Honourable Speaker for one to be in school and a candidate requires serious effort from both parents and teachers. Students must put in mind that these two efforts can make one become successful in life; and if the two efforts are not combined properly, such a delicate person can fail in life.

I want to thank the teachers; I don't want to pronounce their names because I saw you pronouncing in a very organized manner. What they are doing is what Jesus Christ did in this world and from where I sit, if our students rehearse or go through what they were taught before and digest properly; I know they will excel in exams. It does not matter whether you are in national schools in our local schools, what is more important is that those results that each of the members or students sited here can achieve.

From my own reasoning Honourable Speaker, I have been looking at my colleague Hon. Mukhwana and I don't know who gave him this tip that he can also manage to go round and whisper a word of wisdom to the teachers to bring students here. During our days, we didn't have this Honourable House within our locality and Members can agree with me that in our days it was not easy for a student to go home and tell parents that there is a planned visit to a Legislative House; even the parents could think that you are insane. Today under devolution and under the efforts of serious people in this country, we are here.

Whatever that is done in the National Assembly is done here. Even the positioning, the way you are seated and the way they can also manage to see you on the screen; that is what they can see on the televisions at home. There they can see the National Assembly Speaker Hon. Moses Wetangula seated and moderating the House.

What I am communicating is that we have leaders who have made this country to be where it is and who are also occupying serious positions nationally. We have serious leaders who have fought for these fruits that some of us are enjoying here and they are not in any elective post, but they can command a country to be on standstill. I want to pronounce this, the one leader known as Raila Amollo Odinga fought for devolution, and today majority or some of the MCAs here were councilors and could not go to any Legislative House and see what was happening. Today, if you go to Nairobi, you will get one Hon. Moses Masika Wetangula seated on a very serious seat, a senior position; number three in this country, but from Bungoma. What does that mean to us? It means that if one you had money in their pocket, you must take your child to school. From where I sit Hon. Zeddy, I think I can learn something from you... sorry Hon. Mukhwana. Madam Speaker, protect me. There is an Honourable Member here who is trying to...

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): Man is to error, you are protected.

Hon. Ali Machani: Hon. Mukhwana we want to learn from you that before form four candidates' exams, the Honourable Members elected here should try and bring your students who are going to face exams since they will learn a lot. Like what Hon. Nganga has been raising, when you go into the archives, majority of politicians if you go the institutions they went for learning, they were students of history. When we come here, we are all leaders; whether it is in opposition or government because in Kenya, all of us are in government since we have three arms of government; the Executive, Judiciary and Legislature.

The other thing we mentioned is the importance of the opposition. Without the opposition, there would be no oversight and without oversight no government can work. In this House we have the minority side which will always do checks on Executive, we have the Executive who process their motions and agendas on this floor through the majority side; but at the end of the day, we are all legislators and we do oversight.

I want to thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me time to speak before you and I want to thank you and may God bless you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): Thank you so much Hon. Ali. You know we are just from the elections and that is why you find sometimes we go by our names that we were using on the ground. For me if you went to Kimilili and you start looking for Christine Mukhongo, I am very sure you will not get me but if you use the other one you will get me.

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Thank you Madam Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I also want to welcome St. Veronica School students to this Assembly and I believe it is a great honor for them to be part of this occasion today and learn something. I saw an Honourable Member mention that most students come from within the neighboring Wards and forgot the teachers. I believe one of the teachers is from my Ward and therefore Hon. Godfrey, I will be glad if you can also recognize the teachers and the people of Luuya/Bwake who are ensuring that they bring knowledge to your Ward.

(Laughter)

Madam Speaker, when I look at the students and I look at these Honourable Members who were once students, I remember a saying by Tom Bordeaux who said in school you are taught a lesson and then given a test but in life you are given a test that teaches you a lesson. I believe that as teachers impart knowledge to our students. Sometimes, we forget to teach them about life skills and we do not prepare them adequately to face the world. It has always been my plea that the kind of education that we have really needs to be looked into, because when you look at other foreign countries, much of the education is on a practical basis which has partially been embraced by CBC, yet we are focused more on exam kind of education that makes these students burn the midnight oil trying to read so that they pass exams but fail to have the real-life knowledge that will help them pass through exams.

When you look at the grading of our exams we have grade A, B, C, D and E, those are grades that students go through and everyone is striving to get an A. We also forget that in real life we judge them differently because if you get an E, that means that you are endangered, if you get a D you are dangerous, if you get a C, you are a common person, if you get a B, you are better and if you get an A, that is when you are acceptable.

I believe our students have heard that the minimum threshold is always better and if you get a C, you will be taken as a common person. All in all I want to encourage and wish them all the best in their exams. Whatever results someone gets, there is always more to life than the grade you get in school. There is common sense and knowledge that you were born with that can enable you to succeed in life, not only through academics, you can make it through natural brain and your network of friends. Madam Speaker, May I use this opportunity to wish our candidates all the best in their exams.

Hon. Everlyne Nabwire: Thank you Madam Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I rise first of all to welcome St. Veronica High School to this Assembly. This is an Honourable House and as you can see all the people sited here, the Honourable Members, some of them come from your Wards; some of them are your relatives, but when they are here, they are referred to as Honourable Members. I want to take this opportunity to thank my area MCA for making it possible for St. Veronica High School Ranje to be here today.

I also take this opportunity to thank the teachers of St. Veronica because it is a rare opportunity to see that teachers can sit down and think that it is good for the students to at least go for a learning

trip the Assembly. Most of the time we have seen most the teachers think that the children should visit a national park or elsewhere. I really take this opportunity to thank you teachers for the good decision that you made.

St. Veronica High School Ranje is a school that is in my neighborhood and in that school I also serve on the Board of Management as the Vice Chairperson. *Mheshimiwa* (Hon.) Mukhwana, I thank you once more for making it possible for them to come here. From here they have stories that they are going to share with children even from my neighborhood and my own sons and daughters.

To the students who are also candidates of History; to emphasize what Mheshimiwa Everton Nganga of East Sang'alo said that history is a booster subject; all the history students make good leaders. Most of these Honourable Members did history, unlike me who never did history, I opted for Geography but fate had it all. Hon. Opwora has given you a formula which if well used and well thought about, you will produce the best person. I always say that everything that you want to have in this world is always within your capacity. You can make anybody out of you if you work smart. Somebody said that you should work hard; that there are those who work hard and earn a little but when you work smart you earn the best in life.

To this class, I take this opportunity to wish you well in your examinations. To wish you well in your endeavors after the examination because life never ends with the examination, but life you have it and it is you to make your life. From here, I wish you well. God bless you and safe journey back home.

Hon. Alice Kibaba: Thank you Madam Speaker. Students of St. Veronica Ranje I want to wish you success in your forthcoming exams. To the teachers, please after your retirement, join politics. In this House we have an Honourable Member from my home area that is Mt. Elgon Hon. Psero. After his retirement, he joined politics and right now he is a Member of the County Assembly. Thank you and May God bless you.

(Applause)

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): Thank you Honourable Members, I also take this opportunity to thank you for the best wishes you have given to our learners. Students we are told every time we want to get the best, so do your best, get your best, but, how are you working to get that best? That is where the formula comes, it is upon you to do your best and how best you can do it is up to you.

For teachers and administration, thank you, it is not easy to organize for such a trip and to be here with the students. We appreciate the administration of St. Veronica Ranje for the good work, not forgetting the parents because I know they at least went deeper into the pockets to ensure that you are here. I know most of the students expected to see the Speaker dressed differently; in this House we have the leadership and our Speaker and Deputy other members are out on official duty, but there is no vacancy in leadership. When the Principal is not there the Deputy Principal takes over, isn't it?

(Applause)

Therefore, I take charge of this County Assembly of Bungoma for now but, when he arrives, he takes over. Thank you for your coming, we appreciate. I am Hon. Christine Mukhongo, MCA Kimilili Ward. I have been a Primary school teacher and now I am here. This is to encourage the girls that are here from St. Veronica Ranje that everything is possible but it depends on how best you place your foot. Thank you.

There being no other business, we adjourn the House to Wednesday 23rd November, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

(House Adjourns)