

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE HANSARD

TUESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER, 2022

Afternoon Sitting

3rd County Assembly

1st Session

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

HANSARD OFFICIAL REPORT

TUESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER, 2022

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

I have the following Communications to make Honorable Members:

1. Today in the Public Gallery, we have grade five learners from Webuye DEB Primary who have come to the County Assembly of Bungoma to learn about the following; the function of the County Assembly of Bungoma, the Composition of the County Assembly, the roles of the County Assembly, duties of the County Governor, sources of money to the County Government. The delegation is having 70 pupils and five teachers.

For the pupils who are here, I will ask them to all stand up. They are accompanied by the following teachers;

Selina Wambani

Rose Wanyama

Lydia Mucheti and lastly

Linnet Nasaka.

Kindly be seated.

At the proper time, I will allow Members to make some brief ventilation about the pupils who have come from around.

2. This is for all Honorable Members. I invite you to take your time and read Article 194 of the Constitution. I am not saying Standing Order number 194. I am saying article 194 of the Kenyan Constitution. It is important for one thing. At your own time why we insist on having the electronic attendance log in, it is importance in taking care of your interests whether you are in or not. That book can disappear tomorrow but the HANSARD record is for good. So kindly take care of 194 Vis a Vis your electronic log in attendance register.

PAPERS

REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS ON THE VETTING OF NOMINEES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE OFFICES OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN BUNGOMA COUNTY

Hon Joseph Nyongesa (Leader of Majority): Thank you. Allow me table the report by the Committee on Appointments on the vetting of nominees for appointment to the offices of the County Executive Committee Members in Bungoma County.

Mr. Speaker: Honorable Members, a report by the Committee on Appointments on the vetting of nominees for appointment to the offices of the County Executive Committee Members in Bungoma County is now formally laid on the floor of the House and it now becomes the property of this House.

NOTICES OF MOTION

REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS ON THE VETTING OF NOMINEES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE OFFICES OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN BUNGOMA COUNTY

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: Thank you. Allow me give a notice that this House adopts the report by the Committee on Appointments on the vetting of nominees for appointment to the offices of the County Executive Committee Members in Bungoma County.

Mr. Speaker: Honorable Members, a notice has been duly issued by the Honorable Leader of Majority that the House adopts the report by the Committee on Appointments on the vetting of nominees for appointment to the offices of the County Executive Committee Members in Bungoma County.

I equally ask the Clerk to share this report to the Members. It is basically going to form the basis of our Motion tomorrow in our 9:30 a.m. Session. So let the Members have the report in advance to prepare for the debate tomorrow.

STATEMENTS

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF STANDING 47(2) (a)

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Weekly business for the week commencing Tuesday 15th to 17th November, 2022 Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order 47(2) (a).

A statement informing the County Assembly of the weekly business coming before the House from today Tuesday the 15th to Thursday the 17th November, 2022.

Tuesday 15th November, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.

1. Administration of Oath

2. Communication

3. Messages

4. Petitions

5. Papers

6. Notices of Motion

7. Statements

8. Motions and Bills

- This House adopts the report by Committee on Appointments on vetting of nominees for appointment to the offices of County Executive Committee Members in Bungoma County.

On Wednesday 16th November, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Prayers

1. Administration of Oath

2. Communication from the Chair

3. Messages

4. Petitions

5. Papers

6. Notices of Motion

7. Statements

8. Motions and Bills

THAT, this House adopts the report by Committee on Appointments on the Vetting of Nominees for appointment to the Offices of County Executive Committee Members' in Bungoma County.

On Wednesday 16th November, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.;

We shall have;

1. Administration of Oath

2. Communication

3. Messages

4. Petitions

5. Papers

i) Report of the auditor General on the Financial Statements on Bungoma County Disaster Management and Emergency Funds for the year ended 30th June, 2021.

ii) Report by the sectorial Committee on Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources on the Bungoma County Environment day 2021.

6. Notices of Motion

That this House adopts the report by the sectorial Committee on Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources on the Bungoma County Climate Bill, 2021

7. Statements

Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order 47 (2) (c) a statement sought by Hon. Milliah Masungu from the Chairperson, Sectorial Committee on Social Services in relation to the number of Health projects under Community Empowerment Fund that have stalled in Misikhu Ward.

8. Motions and Bills

On Thursday 17th November 2022 at 2:30 p.m.;

1. Administration of Oath

2. Communication

3. Messages

4. Petitions

5. Papers

6. Notices of Motion

7. Statements

Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order 47 (2) (c) a statement sought by Hon. Alfred Wekesa from the Chairperson Sectorial Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries Irrigation and

Cooperative Development in respect to Environment and Health menace being experienced by the residents in Ndivisi Ward living close to Makemo dam.

8. Motions

That this House adopts the report by Sectorial Committee on Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources on the Bungoma County climate Bill 2021.

9. Bills

The Bungoma County Climate Bill 2021 on Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources - second reading.

The Committee of the Whole House Bungoma County Climate Bill 2021, Chairperson - sectorial Committee on Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources - Third reading.

Mr. Speaker: Now that you have read for us, you lay it on the table; you don't go with it. It is meant for our use.

The next item is to allow the Honorable Members make some few remarks about our visitors who are in the gallery. They are pupils from Webuye D.E.B Primary from Matulo Ward in Webuye West.

Hon. Steve in our attendance you are not present but we are seeing you walking around. I was trying to say that card is good for you.

Hon. Steve Kaiser: Thank you for giving me a chance to comment on the issue. First of all I would like to thank the teachers of Webuye D.E.B Primary School for enabling the students to come here so that they can learn a few things about the County Government of Bungoma. The County Government of Bungoma is managed by 62 Members. We have 45 elected Members and 17 Nominated Members

We have two groups here; one is from the majority side which is in the ruling coalition led by the Leader of Majority and the other one is from the minority side which is led by the Leader of Minority. We also have...

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members those are his remarks, Hon. Steve you are still on. Members please give him time but part of what you are saying has been taken up by our Commissionaires and Sergeant; they already know. Just appreciate them in brief.

Hon. Steve Kaiser: Yes, I am just passing through what they have been told. Mine is just to commend you being the leaders of tomorrow. You need to work very hard in school; you need to put in more effort because you know the only equalizer is education. If you put in more effort in

your studies, work very hard and put into consideration what the teachers are teaching you, then you have a chance of being the leaders of tomorrow.

All these leaders who are here have gone through so many challenges and you today have an opportunity of coming to the County Government of Bungoma, the opportunity that we longed for but never had. You are very lucky today that your teachers have helped you to come here so make sure that you put in more efforts and that when the right time comes, you can also be Members of the County Assembly of Bungoma or you can even become better leaders than the MPs or presidents of this Country. Mine is to urge you to be disciplined with whatever the teachers are taking you through, make sure you adhere to the instructions and when you go home, you help your parents with what is supposed to be done so that we can be proud of you in future..

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. I overheard somebody say that you are supposed to delete them from this meeting. I don't know what is meant by deleting them. Hon. Stephen you will go then I have seen Hon. Florence online then Hon. Violet, Hon. Kikechi, and Hon. Ali Machani in that order. You have the whole afternoon so you don't have to worry about it.

Hon. Stephen Wamalwa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to also join the Honourable Member from Matulo Hon. Steve Kaiser in welcoming Webuye DEB which is in Webuye town. When they came around, I realized that some of them actually know me very well and I take this opportunity to welcome them and encourage the young ones who have come along with the teachers.

Mine will be very short. I am a teacher by training and I know that if there is anybody in this country who is working around the clock and having been in class myself, I know that teachers are some of the workers in this country that are not paid commensurate with what they do. Teachers work from Monday to Saturday and if it's a boarding school up to Sunday. They wake up very early in the morning, go to school before 8:00 a.m. and if a teacher is on duty, they work beyond the normal time. They go up to 6:00 p.m. If the school has a boarding section, they go up to 10:00 p.m. and yet when the government makes an increment on teachers, if they make an increment of about 2,000/= shillings, they will put in print media and all the main media in this country that teachers have gotten a pay hike; and the newspapers headlines will be amplified yet the same teachers are people who work tirelessly to change the lives of people.

A teacher is like someone being given a book which is plain then they transform and put a lot of content in the book, because they nurture the young ones from a very tender age. More so Hon. Speaker, the Primary school teachers are the workaholics who have to turn a nothing into something. Based on that, I know that teachers are the world changers; you are the people who drive the economy of this country because we know that education is the greatest equalizer of our time. We know very well that it is through the same that the son and daughter of a peasant

can dine on the same table with that of a President, a Politician, a Doctor, an Engineer or an Attorney General.

Again resources shrunk and we know very well that during the days of our grandfathers and fathers when this country was gaining independence, there was a lot of land for those parents who were well endowed. I don't know if Speaker you are among them. Those sons of yesterday who were lucky enough to be given some good land by their parents. That a parent could say I have five sons and this parent will apportion to each son maybe five acres of land or seven or three or two acres. Today there is no land and the only settlement scheme that we have is education that we can give to the young ones and they put the same settlement in their brains and walk away with it and settle anywhere they want on earth. They can move with the same settlement scheme even abroad.

Having known that, I want to celebrate teachers in this House. I want to commend you because you are doing tremendous work.

I know the issue of CBC is a problem and I remember even in Webuye, there was a school where teachers had gathered led by KNUT. The government led by Mr. Matiang'i came and arrested them and some teachers in KNUT lost their jobs. I also have a teacher who died because of stress courtesy of the government not listening to the desires, wishes and approaches that they were putting forward. I know this CBC issue is a problem, you have a great burden as teachers but I know you are going to put your best foot forward and transform. I know you are here today with Grade five pupils; who are second in line for national summative assessment after the continuous assessments that they have been doing. I want to wish you well as you prepare them and I know that even as you do that, it is God that will pay you. No man can pay a teacher because there is no amount that can be equivalent to what you are doing as teachers.

To the grade five pupils who are here, I know next year you will be candidates; so start preparing to join junior secondary school. I want to wish them well and pray that may their spirit never die, may the spirit of teachers not die, may the spirit of the students who are here never die so that tomorrow will be a better day as we look forward to listen to the government on what will happen in the improvement of the same curriculum that we have today. Because we cannot run away from it, we live with it as we wait for the results and way forward from the government.

Otherwise I want to commend the teachers and encourage them not to tire, not to give up, because your children will be blessed as you bless the children of other people. God bless you and thank you so much.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Florence?

Hon. Florence Juma: Thank you Hon. Speaker Sir for the opportunity to contribute. I will begin by congratulating the pupils of Webuye DEB Primary School which happens to be a school in

Matulo Ward, a Ward that I happen to come from. It is one of the oldest schools in Webuye and very many leaders have gone through that school; my own mother being one of them.

To teachers and pupils, I would like to congratulate you. I want to thank you teachers for nurturing these children and any leader who wishes so to be a leader or anybody who has an intention to be one has to begin from somewhere. These are young leaders who are here and who have an interest to learn and I can say that we are looking at the leaders, MCAs, MPs and future leaders of this country. Thank you so much Mr. Speaker I submit.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. I will have Hon Violet.

Hon. Violet Makhanu: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this time to say something to the students. I happen to be one of the leaders from Webuye East Constituency; I am the MCA representing Mihuu Ward, the immediate neighbor to Hon. Steve of Matulo Ward.

I want to appreciate the teachers for making the effort to bring students to this Assembly so that they are able to learn one or two things from this session. I also want to appreciate you teachers for making a good move of bringing Hon. Steve Kaiser to this Assembly to represent you. I am sure right from the time you came to this Assembly in the morning, you can agree with me that you have a leader who has you people of Matulo at heart.

When I saw madam Seline being introduced on this floor, I remembered when I was a small girl at Mikuba Primary School I think in Class four or five; that is the time I used to see Madam Seline when she was a teacher at Lugulu Boarding. She was a very nice lady during PE and that time Lugulu boarding used to win right from Primary level to Nationals PE courtesy of Madam Seline. I have seen her doing very well, she used to have three legs and I am happy that today she is not having them, she still has it but she is doing very well. She knows what I am talking about... she is a good friend.

Mr. Speaker: No we don't know.

Hon. Violet Makhanu: Speaker you may not know but it is me and Madam who know what I am talking about. So Madam I appreciate you for that, you are still very strong and you can imagine from the time I was in lower primary up to now I am here as an MCA representing a Ward. These are some of the fruits from you.

I want to say something to our students. You are still very young and we believe that you are our future leaders. For you to be the leaders who will come after us, you must just ensure that you get committed to your education. Work very hard and ensure that you are doing very well so that in future you are here as one of us. The other day I was telling other students who were in this Assembly that as you sit there, start admiring some of the seats in this Assembly; you admire to sit where Hon. Violet is sitting in future and for you to achieve that, you need to work hard in your education. I am sure you will get what you want. For the girl child who is here, you can see

we have ladies here and we were small girls like you but we grew up to where we are and we are here just because we took good care of ourselves.

Therefore, I want you to ensure that you take good care of yourselves and work hard in school so that at one time you will be like Violet here or another Honourable Member who is a lady. The same applies to the boys; you can see men here officially dressed in suits and ties; you can be like them in the future. I want to encourage you to work hard in your academics and I am sure once you come out with flying colors, you will make the community, teachers and all of us proud. I want to wish you all the best for those who are preparing for their exams. I wish you all the best that at the end of the year and when results come out, you may win and come out with flying colors.

Hon. Benard Kikechi: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me a chance to also pass a few remarks to the young pupils in the gallery plus their teachers. First of all, I want to appreciate the Member of County Assembly from Matulo Ward Hon. Steve Simiyu for bringing the pupils from Webuye DEB for a learning tour. I will be brief; to the teachers and pupils; I remember sometime in the 80s when I was a pupil in Class Six at Makunga Primary, I was taken to the then local government in Kitale. I could not have imagined that one of these fine days I could also sit in such a House here in Bungoma County Assembly. To our young boys and girls sitting in the gallery, I encourage you to work hard and your dreams will be realized.

To the teachers more so, those who are voters in Matulo Ward, you can attest that you elected a good MCA to represent you in this House. I want to urge you not to hesitate even in 2027 to bring him back to represent you again.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Kikechi, these are not eligible voters, you could have sought that they talk to their parents.

Hon. Ali Machani Mutoka: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance at least to speak to the learners in the gallery. Hon. Speaker, the students sitting in the gallery I am aware are in Grade five in Webuye DEB Primary School. The only funny part is that one of the teachers in the gallery is one of the key leaders in this County. The father passed away but he was the leader who served in this House during the Local Authorities. He was the one who Started Webuye Town Council before it graduated to Webuye Municipal Council; none other than the late Painito Wanyama Musiambu, father to brother Musiambu. It happens that the Speaker who is seated here with you, the father taught in the same school. I know majority may not be having this information. The madam that Hon. Violet Makhanu has mentioned here repeatedly is a key Swahili teacher with deep vocabulary that you may not understand easily. I congratulate them because whatever they have done is not easy. We have served in this House but it is not easy to

have a school that is more organized to bring pupils to come and familiarize with this Legislative House.

Speaker, allow me also congratulate one energetic young man who is equally brilliant and who recently opted to give politics a try; Hon. Steve Simiyu Kaiser. He is a young man I always watch and I think I am his role model because he is always happy when he sees me around.

(Applause)

When I sit with him, I am always happy because I was close to his late father Christopher Simiyu; the only man who risked and approached a financial institution and started a sisal factory in this county in early 80s. These are the giants who risked going into politics, they risked to be giants in Swahili language. They were able to risk to leave business and join politics. I know he is a man that will spearhead the interests of Matulo Ward. I know he replaced another young man who was also my son; therefore, I have nothing to lose. I know he will also help this school. Mr. Speaker, I am aware you know the school although you did not learn in the school, but this is one of the schools in Webuye alongside Muji which are serious with a rich history. Majority of leaders locally and nationally passed through these schools. Ours is to encourage the pupils that kindly respect your teachers if you want to go far. Two, give maximum respect to your parents irrespective of their social status because you are their product.

It is on record that between 2005 and 2007, I served as a Treasurer for the school and as much as I could not attend all the meetings. I was elected as the Treasurer. That is the time we started Webuye DEB Secondary School and when I count those who gave donations in order for us to start the school is one gentleman sited before you; Hon. Emmanuel Situma. Together with the father Francis Mukhebi, they gave me some money to buy windows for that school. Today he is now sited as the Speaker moderating a sitting where pupils and teachers are listening to. Therefore, in this world, everything is possible when you are humble, cooperative and also caring.

When we were in school Hon. Speaker, during those days, we could not have time to go to any Legislative House. You could not even follow remotely because social media was not there. When you want to watch news; one, three or four people within the division could not manage to own black and white televisions. It was not easy for you to go to another person's house to watch television. The Radios brands were only Sanyo and Phillips and today we have social media everywhere and people can access news. We could not manage to go and there is no teacher who could come up with such an initiative to take pupils to Nairobi where you could access a Legislative House; that is the National Assembly. We did not have the Senate and the County Assemblies during that time. We want to thank those who fought for devolution and we are enjoying the fruits of devolution because there are people who sacrificed in difficult situations so that some of us can be called Honourable Members. A few years back; I have not seen Hon.

Meshack Simiyu; during the defunct local government's days and Hon. Mukhanya will bear with me that one of the teachers is your cousin, those days' Honourable Members... Hon. Speaker, I don't know if I am the one to be informed or the House?

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: *(On a point of information)* Hon. Speaker, may I inform the House or rather the Member that the subjects at hand are the pupils, yet the member is praising those who fought for devolution. I think we were to speak to the subjects sited in the public gallery.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, I don't want to interject but stick to the subject at hand to avoid interjections.

Hon. Ali Machani Mutoka: Hon. Speaker, sometimes I miss words to guide. I don't see any harm for pupils from Webuye DEB coming here wasting resources minus understanding the genesis of devolution and County Assemblies. This is something that we cannot run away from and that is why I said I don't want to use a language that can confuse the members...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Ali Machani, these are Senior Members and they cannot be confused by any language.

Hon. Ali Machani Mutoka: Hon. Speaker, I am mentioning the pupils and not Honourable Members. I am well guided. When we are here we are setting a model. When I was a young man, Moi used to come to Pan Paper and I used to see those days a person in the name of a Mayor being praised and greeting Moi. I admired and said one day I would like to be like such leader being praised. Today, when we are here and pronounce leaders like the National Assembly Speaker Hon. Moses Masika Wetangula, when you speak and mention his name it is not harm. When I am here talking about devolution and I mention Raila Amollo Odinga who fought for it, it is not harm. Hon. Speaker, let us not hide under the table; leaders must be identified and be associated with good character before us.

If today I am doing the right thing; I have mentioned a teacher in class, a retired Head teacher Mr. Francis Mukhebi, nobody knows him but I know him and I am associating with the Speaker seated with you. You were not there, why is it that one did not object. We are here to remember and when we are remembering we also pronounce that it forms part of what the pupils have come here to learn.

They are not here just for moving around, they are also learning and seeing what we are talking about. They want to see how we pronounce things, how we walk if we are in official attire. I remember there is a time a question came before the form four students and even there is a book known as *Mstahiki Meyu*. For those who understand that, these things will come and go but don't narrow yourself to where you belong. Kindly be advised.

Hon. Polycarp Wandabusi: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for giving me this opportunity to also congratulate the Webuye DEB Primary School. I would like to congratulate the teachers for making arrangements and coming to this House so that they can bring our students to learn much about the County Assembly. I would also like to thank the area MCA because I am a friend of Matulo Ward. I must also encourage him that he has taken the right step and tell the teachers that you have an able MCA.

Lastly, I would like to tell the students that you are only guided by success and success is guided by determination. You must work hard and sacrifice. I have also been very careful to learn that there are Grade Five learners. During our days, when we joined class one which is now PP1, they used to take our measurements using the hand. You could touch the ears...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Polycarp, you did not experience that. You were told stories. Ask Hon. Catherine and Hon. Ali Mutoka.

Hon. Polycarp Wandabusi: Mr. Speaker Sir, I was bringing the point and saying that at their age, I am sure they are going to work very hard. With determination and sacrifice, they are going to be the great people of this country.

Hon. Timothy Chikati: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for giving me this chance. I will be brief and add some sentiments and a few remarks on our students today in the House.

Most of the members have spoken what I wanted to speak but I only have one point to the teachers who accompanied these pupils; kindly and I beg you, talk to the Head teachers and Deputy Head teachers that the students have to stay in school. I am saying this because today I received a call from my Ward that the students are heading for exams and others are being returned home because of 2,000, and 5000 shillings for fees.

I want to say that during our time and I know it is a practice today, that the students cannot get a certificate or report card unless they clear their school fees. Because I know that at the end of the day, parents are going to pay the fees. So there is no way a student can stay at home and lack or miss to do an exam because of 2,000 or 5,000 shillings. I want it to go on record that the Head teachers who have accompanied these students...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Chikati, the people are introduced here as teachers accompanying pupils, none of them is a Head teacher. The message is so good but to the wrong people.

Hon. Timothy Chikati: No Mr. Speaker, I am conveying a message that if the teachers who are here can convey the message to the Deputy Head teachers and Head teachers.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, I do not want to interject anybody but kindly stick to the issue at hand. Hon. Chikati you are still on!

Hon. Timothy Chikati: It is okay Mr. Speaker. Otherwise, I just want to wish them well. We do not have candidates here but if there are, I just want to wish them well in their forthcoming exams.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance to make a few remarks about our students who are here, that is grade five learners from Webuye DEB. Actually, we want to appreciate them especially coming from a public school and making an effort to be here to learn, to know what happens in the Assembly. It is not so easy so we want to congratulate the administration and the parents and your able area MCA who organized for you to be here.

While outside when these learners were being guided by the Clerks, I was very impressed with the grade five learners because it is not so easy for them to ask and answer questions and I was impressed by one of the pupils; very ambitious.

I know one day you will be one of the Honourable Members in the House. Actually he wanted to know how much Honourable Members earn. It is not so easy for a grade five to ask the Clerks how much they earn. I think he is preparing and we wish you well. I have been a teacher of grade five Science and Mathematics up to last year and I want to appreciate your efforts.

I want to ask you to work hard. Education is the equalizer between the poor and the rich and so when we work hard, we are going to get there and be one of the Honourable Members in the Assembly and anywhere in Kenya not just in Webuye; I know not all of you are from Webuye. Otherwise thank you so much for coming, we wish you well as you go back and put more effort into your studies. I submit.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Christine.

Hon. Tony Barasa: Asante Mheshimiwa Spika. Kwanza niruhusu nipongeze wanafunzi na wakufunzi wa shule ya baraza la jimbo ndogo la Webuye almaarufu Webuye D.E.B. Tunaelewa ya kwamba wakati ugatuzi ulipofanyika mwaka wa elfu mbili na kumi majina kama *District* zilitolewa na tukawa na majimbo.

Pili, Kuna machache ambayo ndugu yangu kiongozi wa wengi amesema ni mambo ya wilaya. Wakati huo tulikuwa na wilaya ambazo wakati ugatuzi ulipotokea mwaka wa elfu mbili na kumi, hizi wilaya ziliondolewa mbali na tuko na majimbo madogo almaarufu kama *Sub Counties* kwa kingereza.

Kwa hivyo mimi langu kwanza ni kupongeza walimu kwa kuchukua juhudi ili kuja katika jumba hili ambalo linatunga sheria na kuwaleta wanafunzi wetu watoto wazuri sana kutoka jimbo hili ndogo la Webuye, kung'amua ni mambo yapi yanatekelezwa katika jumba hili la kutunga sheria.

Ni nadra sana haswa wakati wetu kama tungekuwa na safari, ingelikuwa ni safari ya kutoka hapa Bungoma kuelekea jiji kuu la Kenya ambalo ni Nairobi ili tuwapate watunzi sheria wakipanga mikakati ya jinsi nchi itakavyoendeshwa. Lakini kutokana na waliopigania uhuru na kutokana na ugatuzi ambao ulitokea na kuzalisha majimbo arubaini na saba, tuko na uwezo ambao sasa hivi tunaeza safiri mwendo mfupi sana haswa kama ule ambao wanafunzi wametoka Webuye kuja Bungoma ili kujionea Wenyewe ana kwa ana na yale ambayo yanatekelezwa katika jumba hili la kutunga sheria.

Nitakosea kama iwapo sitamtaja kiongozi tajika ambaye alichaguliwa. Bila shaka najua watoto hawa hawakupiga kura lakini wazazi wao walikuwa moja wa wale ambao walihusika katika uchaguzi uliopita. Pia walimu ambao wana miaka zaidi ya kumi na minane walihusika katika kuchagua kiongozi mkakamavu. Kiongozi Steve Kaiser najua ni kijana mchapa kazi na yuko tayari kuendesha bendera ya elimu katika eneo hilo ambalo watoto hawa wanatoka.

Mwisho, chanda chema huvishwa pete. Tunafahamu fika kwamba sisi sote tulio hapa tumepitia mikononi mwa wakufunzi na wakufunzi hawa wamefanya kazi nzuri. Tunataka tuwaombee kila la heri kwamba hatuna la kuwapa nyinyi lakini tunataka kuwaomba na kuwashushia baraka zake mwenyezi Mungu zipate kuwa na wakufunzi wote katika taifa la Kenya.

Hon. Maureen Khanjila: Mheshimiwa Spika, Waheshimiwa wenzangu haswa Mheshimiwa Steve, walimu wa shule ya Webuye DEB na wanafunzi nataka kuchangia jioni ya leo katika Mswada huu wa kuwahimiza wanafunzi wa Webuye DEB jinsi wanavyopasa kufanya katika maisha yao ili waweze kufanikiwa .

Cha kwanza zaidi nataka kuwaambia ya kwamba masomo ndio msingi wa maisha ya baadaye na pia nawaomba ya kwamba muwe na nidhamu kwa walimu na wazazi. Watoto ambao wako na nidhamu ndio wanaofanikiwa katika maisha yao. Ninaposema hivi ni kwa maana sisi pia tulikuwa wanafunzi, tulikuwa watoto, tulikuwa kwa rika kama yenu na kwa sasa ndio viongozi kwa maana tulikuwa watiifu kwa wazazi na walimu.

Cha pili pia mtie bidii kwa kila somo na mpende walimu wenu kwa sababu ukichukia mwalimu na pia utachukia somo lake. Mkiwa shuleni mpende walimu ili muweze kuyaskiza na kuyatia maanani yale ambayo mnafunzwa na mjue ya kwamba nyinyi ndio waelekezi na viongozi wajao. Nyinyi ndio tegemeo la nchi hii ya Kenya. Kwa hayo yote Mungu awajalie mnapopambana na maisha yenu.

(Applause)

Hon. Alfred Wekesa: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance. First of all, I want to thank the teachers of Webuye DEB, one of the oldest schools in Webuye. It is a school that has been doing well in the recent past and these are grade five pupils and have only one year left to sit for their exams. I just wanted to say this is an opportunity which they used to visit this Assembly. It is also a good opportunity that once in a while they have managed to come here to

see what is done in the Assembly. This Assembly is just like the National Assembly; the only difference is that this is in a County and the other one is in Nairobi.

So our pupils, when you go back, do your best. The future is you and I think with what is happening in the CBC curriculum, maybe in the next one year, there will be further changes. So work hard and we are behind you. To *Mheshimiwa* (Hon.) Steve, this is an opportunity that you have to make use of by supporting these pupils who may become leaders tomorrow. To our teachers, I have seen my sister who is here. She is one of the teachers and we have worked together in the past and I know she is doing very well having been in the system for the over 20 years. So to the pupils, I wish you well and a safe journey back home, we shall meet.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Alfred. I will have Hon. Caleb.

Hon. Peter Caleb Wanjala: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to speak a word of encouragement for pupils who are here from Webuye DEB. I would like to encourage the pupils that the reason you are in school is that you have been given an opportunity to decide your future. Who you will be today and what you do now will reflect in your future life whether positively or negatively.

So as pupils, my encouragement to you who are here, next year you will be sitting for your national exams and after the exam you go to high school and maybe join the University and thereafter we have what we call the realities of life. The reality has no mercy, but for you, you are lucky that you have been given an opportunity. Now prepare yourself to face the future and the only thing that can help you when you are facing the future is when you have the knowledge; because when you have it, it will help you to know what to do and what not to do.

We always say that knowledge is power that liberates us from the chains of manipulation and limitation. When you know something, you know how you can deal with it and knowledge is the possession of facts, it is the interpretation of facts and understanding. So mine is just to encourage that desire success, desire good and good will come to you.

To the teachers I want to applaud you for being visionary leaders; to decide that let us visit the County Assembly of Bungoma, you are doing a good job and God will reward you for that. I know being a Teacher is not easy; it is just a calling like being Soldier or a Doctor. Mine is just to appreciate you, this is so awesome that they are in this Assembly. This year, we are very privileged to have several schools visit us and I think this is the best way to go because what we are impacting in the minds of these young upcoming leaders is positivity, which will help them also to desire greatness and success in their life.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Caleb. I will have Hon. Wafula Waiti then I will have Hon. Otsiulah the Chairperson of Education Committee.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Asante Mheshimiwa Spika. Kwanza ninawashukuru walimu wa shule ya msingi ya Webuye DEB na wanafunzi kwa kupata fursa ya kututembelea katika Jumba letu. Ninamshukuru Mheshimiwa Kaiser kwa kuchaguliwa na Mungu akampa nafasi akakutana na wanafunzi na walimu kutoka eneo lake la uakilishi. Wakati niliona hawa wanafunzi walinikumbusha mwaka wa 1979 wakati nilikuwa mwanafunzi wa darasa la tano pamoja na mama mzazi wa Mheshimiwa Allan...

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Waiti when you mention some of those years when you were in class five, some of my Honourable Members were not yet born. So I think you should avoid that idea of quoting the years. When you are saying that you were a school mate to Hon. Allan's mother, kindly avoid that line of debate...

(Laughter)

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Asante Mheshimiwa Speaker langu tu ni kuomba waheshimiwa ambao wako hapa na nikifikiria vizuri wao ni wazazi kama mimi. Kuna jambo ambalo walimu wanafanya kwa bidii sana. Watoto wetu wakiwa shule ukiangalia muda mwalimu anakaa na mtoto wako shuleni ni muda mrefu sana kuliko muda sisi wazazi tunakaa na mtoto nyumbani. Kuna mazingira ambayo wanafunzi wanazoea kule shuleni mpaka wanachukua kua hali yao. Lakini kuna wakati wazazi tunakosea. Wakati watoto wana shida hawapati chakula asubuhi wakati wanaenda shule, wengine hawanywi chai manyumbani mwao na wanapofika shuleni na taabu zile walimu wanazopitia, kuwapitisha katika hali hio ya masomo, lakini wakati wa mtihani unapofika, utawaona wazazi wanarudisha watoto kwa mazingira mengine. Mtoto hakua akinywa chai asubuhi hata hakupata uji asubuhi ndipo aende shule; utaona siku hiyo ya mtihani mzazi anajaribu kuleta mapenzi ya mzazi na mtoto...

Mr. Speaker: Sio kujaribu, ni mapenzi.

(Laughter)

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Anaanza kumpikia mayai asubui ili mtoto aende shule akifikiria akipata chakula kama hicho atapita mtihani. Mtoto akifika shuleni utaona kwa sababu tumbo lake halijazoea hiyo hali, anaanza kuhangaika wakati anafanya mtihani. Anatoka nje na inaweza kufanya mtoto aanguke mtihani. Kwa hivyo kuna kitu nataka kutumia lakini kwa sababu ya lugha inanisumbua nimetumia Kiswahili na kwa sababu Mheshimiwa Violet alisema kuna mwalimu mmoja hapo ambaye ni mwalimu wa Kiswahili kwa muda mrefu. Ombi langu ni kwamba sisi kama wazazi tukimpa mwalimu mtoto wetu akae naye, huo muda wote azoe mazingira tumwachie mwalimu amalize na mtoto katika hayo mazingira wakati wa mtihani, ili mtoto asihangaike wakati anafanya mtihani.

(Applause)

Hon. Benjamin Otsiulah: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to also pass a message of encouragement to our guests today. First and foremost, this is a learning experience for our visitors. I want them to get encouraged since the visitors they fall squarely under the Education and Vocational Training Committee, so these ones are my special guests in this House. They are also lucky because as you can see, they have also witnessed that they are getting news live today because as I address this House, they are able to see me on the screens.

This is an opportunity and they should not take it for granted because they are seeing us live today. The Basic Education Act of 2013 ensures the right of education to all children with disabilities. When that Act came into place, it gives emphasis on the need to equalize the issues of education so that all our children can access it. It is in line with Article 22 and 23 of the Constitution on the bill of rights. I know you are a lawyer of more than 20 years and you appreciate the fact that education is the cornerstone of everything in the world.

I agree with the Deputy Speaker that education is power and it is an equalizer. I therefore wish to thank the teachers who have accompanied the pupils today to this House; that they are doing a noble task and I also wish to pray for the pupils as they work hard. Hon. Steve Simiyu Sonko is a gentleman and he has already assured you that he is going to supply bursaries to all of you...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Otsiulah the last name I think is not part of his official names

Hon. Benjamin Otsiulah: Sorry Mr. Speaker, I know it propelled him to where he is today but I withdraw. Hon. Steve Simiyu Kaiser has promised to stand with these pupils from his Ward and I am happy that he is living to his promise. I want to end there because I believe there is a last speaker, but as a Committee on Education in this House, I wish the pupils and the visitors to know that we take a keen interest on matters of education and as a House, apart from our core role to legislate, Members of this House are also committed to see that education standards in this county are upheld and taken to the next level.

Hon. Alice Kibaba: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. The teachers of Webuye DEB what I can say is that may our good Lord bless the work your hands as you know teaching is a calling. The pupils, when you go back home, tell your mothers that in the Assembly of Bungoma, there are Honourable Members who are the age of your mothers and some the age your grandmothers and those who are the age of your grandmothers listened keenly and they did not walk out. Teachers what I can tell you is that please, take care of these children that God has put in your hands. Hon. Steve, remember to visit your school at least once in a month and motivate the teachers.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, on behalf of the Assembly of Bungoma and the Office of the Speaker, we wish the pupils of Webuye DEB all the best in their end year examination. For

the teachers, we appreciate your good work because teaching is not as easy as people take it. It is just a calling and we pray that you take care of our children.

Honourable Members, under the last item on our Order Paper, there is no matter for our attention. We will now adjourn this sitting and resume tomorrow, Wednesday the 16th of November, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

House adjourns