

## COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



### ***THE HANSARD***

**Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2024**

**The Assembly met at the County Assembly Chambers at 2.30 pm**

*The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen), in Chair*

### **PRAYER**

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen); Honorable Leleruk

**MCA Suguta Ward,** (Hon. Leleruk James); Thank you Mr. Speaker I want to table the committee on Labour, social welfare, justice and legal affairs report on the vetting of Mr. Daniel Moss Lentiyo nominee to the position of CEO, secretary to the Samburu County Public Service Board.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen); Honorable Leleruk

**MCA Suguta Ward,** (Hon. Leleruk James): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Honorable Speaker I beg to give a notice of the following motion that taking into consideration the recommendation of the committee on Labour, Social Welfare, Justice and Legal Affairs in its report on the vetting of Daniel Moss Lentiyo nominee to the position of Secretary CEO to the Samburu County Public Service Board laid on the table of the assembly on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> 2024 and pursuant to the provision of section 9 sub-section 2 of the public appointment county assembly approval act 2017 and section 58 of the county government act 2012, this county assembly approves;

The appointment of Mr. Daniel Moss Lentiyo as the Secretary CEO Samburu County Public Service Board.

Thank you honorable Speaker.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen); Honorable Lorunyei

**MCA Nachola Ward,** (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence); Thank you Mr. Speaker information on the current progress of pit latrines constructions, teachers issues, bursary and Sirata Technical and Vocational Training Centre.

Thank you for your request for information statements number SBU/CA/CK/EV/VOL2/028 dated 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024, regarding information on the current progress on the construction of 60 pit latrines by the department across the county, plans to address the issue of a teacher transferred from Lorrok ECDE to Maralal without replacement, significance shortage of ECDE teachers county wide, strategies in place to recruit more teachers, sufficiency of previous recruitment drive, department consideration of allocating more funds to honorable members in each ward to recruit intern teachers.

The current status: of the bursary program, and the department plan to effectively manage and revive the non-functional, Sirata Technical and Vocational Training.

As the CECM for education and vocational training, I hereby provide the following response.

Firstly, I acknowledge the importance of all ECDE children having the right to free and compulsory early childhood education in a public education centers as the per the early childhood act, 2021 section 5/1.

Teachers in our ECDE centers play an integral role to inspire, encourage and promote children education, care and rights. Consequently, the county government is determined to provide requisite infrastructural facilities in our ECDE centers (pit latrines), bursaries allocation is very key in ensuring that our students remain in the schools and vocational training centers prepare our youth for work and develop citizen skills to remain employable to respond to the needs of the economy.

In response to your inquiries the sectorial committee on education and vocational training will response on the following;

1. That the department in this financial year 2023/2024 planned to construct 60 pit latrines in the entire county. The constructions are ongoing and Porro Ward in particular Nontoto pit latrine is at 80% and Nauneri is at 50%, Nonkukula and Ntashata are also in progress as well as other latrines in our wards.
2. Transfer of teachers, civil servants are normal routine requirement for better services delivery to respective stations. This happens every end of school academic calendar or for other reasons the department has an obligation to ensure that our ECDE centers have teachers, it also has an obligation to transfer teachers based on the department teacher balancing, teachers request, health issues as well as security matters. A teacher was transferred from Lorrok ECDE due to her request on security and family matters.
3. On replacement of the said teacher, yes, the department has replaced this teacher and posted him to Lolkonded ECDE under Sirata Primary which is in Porro Ward. This is more understaffed than Porro ECDE with two teachers currently. However, the department will consider posting additional teachers to more understaffed schools in the

entire county including Porro ECDE on need basis during the awaited teacher's replacement.

- a) The department has a significant shortage of ECDE teacher's county wide, with only 530 teachers against an enrollment of 44,049 learners translating to a teacher-pupil ration of 1:83 against the National Pre-primary Education Policy Standard Guideline (2018), on teacher-pupil ratio in regular pre-primary class of 1:25. This is a clear indication that there is a great teacher shortage in the county.
- b) On the strategy of recruiting more teachers, the department will continue to request additional budgetary allocation from the budget department in order to recruit additional teachers as spelt out in the CIDP 2023 to 2027 on the request to recruit at least 30 teachers annually. This is available resources based understanding that the department also requests the assembly to consider during the budget discussions and appropriation.
- c) The last teacher recruitment drive was done in 2019 and was not sufficient to meet the demands in our ECDE centers, the replacement of teachers who exited the service due to natural attrition is still pending on the County Public Service Board awaiting the Secretary appointment so that they can begin the replacement process, this too unfortunately will be insufficient.
- d) The department requests the honorable members to consider recruiting ECDE teachers as intern within their respective wards through Ward Development Fund as a means to mitigate the teacher shortage in our ECDE centers.

4) The status of the bursary program for the financial year 2023/2024, I would like to state as follows;

- a) We received Kshs. 114,100,000 for bursary program mid of April,2024 out of the said amount of Kshs. 29,000,000 was for the Ward Development Fund for the fourteen wards

The bursary disbursement process started immediately where we disbursed

Funds as follows: -

- Kshs. 31,960,000 to Universities
- Kshs 28,244,000 to Middle level colleges
- Kshs 24,896,000 to Secondary Schools

We have also disbursed Ward Fund for the following wards: -

- Maralal Ward
- Ndoto Ward
- Wamba North Ward

Similarly, we received list of beneficiaries from the following wards and we are working on them for final disbursements

- Lodokejek Ward
- Angata Nanyokie Ward
- Wamba West Ward
- Wamba East Ward
- Waso Ward
- Loosuk Ward
- Elbarta Ward

Further, the following wards have not submitted the list of beneficiaries for processing: -

- Baawa Ward
- Suguta Ward
- Nyiro Ward
- Porro Ward

Nachola Ward did not allocate any funds for Bursary in the Financial Year 2023/2024.

- a) Is the department aware of the case in Porro Ward, where a student received a bouncing cheque? - ***We are not aware of the case since nobody reported it to our bursary office.***
- b) Are you aware that issuing a bouncing cheque is a criminal offence? – ***Yes, I am aware.***

5. How does the department plan to effectively manage and revive the non-functional Sirata Vocational Training Centre?

Honorable Speaker Sir, Sirata Technical Training Institute is a Technical Vocational Training Centre that is both financed, constructed and administratively under the National Government.

According to Technical Vocational Educational Training Act Parliament of Kenya (TVET) No. 29 of 2013 (part v), there are various categories of Technical Training Institutions. The institutions are organized under the following categories:

- 1) Vocational Training Centers (VTCs), which shall offer courses up to Artisan Certificate.
- 2) Technical and Vocational Colleges (TVCs), which shall offer programs up to Diploma.
- 3) Teacher Trainer Colleges (TTCs), which shall offer to higher diploma level.
- 4) National Polytechnics (NPs), which shall offer to higher diploma level.
- 5) Such other categories as the Cabinet Secretary may specify.

Hon. Speaker Sir, the Fourth Schedule part 2 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, clearly states the functions and power of the County Government which includes among others;

- i. Pre-primary Education.
- ii. Village Polytechnics, currently known as Vocational Training Centers.
- iii. Home Craft Centers.
- iv. Childcare Centers.

With these understandings therefore, and in accordance to the Laws of Kenya, the County Government of Samburu has No role to play in relation to the management and development of Technical and Vocational Colleges (TVCs), which the institution in question, Sirata Technical and Vocational College falls under. The department therefore has no legal mandate to comment on the mentioned Institution and all questions pertaining the said inquiry.

Hon. Speaker Sir, according to Samburu County Vocational Training Centers Act 2019, as a department, we can confirm that the following are the existing VTCs within Samburu County;

- Maralal Vocational Training Centre.
- Wamba Vocational Training Centre.
- Baragoi Vocational Training Centre.
- Archers Vocational Training Centre.

Hon. Speaker Sir, the following are proposed centers;

- Loosuk Vocational Training Centre

- Masikita Vocational Training Centre
- Morijo Vocational Training Centre
- Lesirikan Vocational Training Centre

I also confirm the following Technical and Vocational Training Colleges (TVCs) that are existing and administratively under the National Government;

- Archers Post Technical and Vocational Training College (Samburu TVC)
- Baragoi Technical and Vocational Training College (Samburu North TVC)
- Sirata oirobi Technical and Vocational Training College

The department of Education and VTC recognize the support the Assembly has extended to it over time. And this is a partnership and relationship that we cherish and hope to maintain for the smooth working to deliver services to the people of Samburu County. We will still be available to provide whatsoever clarification that will be required of us in regards to this statement and other issues in the future.

Regards,

***Hon Mark Egelan***

***CECM – Education and Vocal Training.***

Mr. Speaker, I have read the response from the department and now in invite any reaction from the Members, Thank you.

**MCA Porro Ward,** (Hon. Leerte Patrick): Asante Mheshimiwa Spika, Nashukuru kwanza Mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Elimu, kwa yale ambayo amezungumzia na kupeana. Lakini kulingana na Misala nilizoona zimeandikwa pahala panapoitwa Nontoto kufikia asilimia 80 na Nauneri, Mheshimiwa Spika, Nonkukula ambapo Mwenyekiti ameshindwa kutaja, hawajafika huko na Ntashata pia hawajafika. Kwa hivyo nilitaka kujua ni lini kwa sababu hata *Financial Year* ya Serikali imeisha na hizi *tenders* zilikuwa zimepeanwa kitambo.

Ya pili Mheshimiwa Spika, nilikuwa pia nimeuliza kuhusu idara kuweza kuruhusu waheshimiwa kuweka fedha kiasi kidogo kulingana na wadi yao, kwa sababu wadi nyingi ziko na ECDs zisizo na walimu, kwa mfano wadi yangu ina ECDs karibia Kumi ambazo hazina walimu, wale ambao

wako ni wa kujitolea, na siku ambayo wazazi hawana fedha basi walimu huenda kutafutab kwingine. Sijaweza kusikia ikizungumziwa kwani nilikuwa nimeomba idara hiyo iwapo ingeweza kupeana ruhusa hiyo kwa waheshimiwa wote, wawekeze kulingana na ile idadi ya wadi yao.

La mwisho Mheshimiwa Spika, Nilikuwa nimeulizia kuhusu *bouncing cheque* ambayo nafikiri niko na nambari ya cheki hiyo, Mheshimiwa Spika sijui kama Idara inafahamu fika kuwa suala hili ni la haramu. Kupeana hata *bouncing cheque* kwa mtu mmoja ni kinyume na sheria. Kwa hivyo ikiwa unaweza kupeana cheki ya idara ya Elimu nzima, hiyo ni kukosa heshima kabisa kwani hiyo ni kinyume na sheria na walisema kuwa hakuna aliyeenda kulalamikia suala hilo kwani Mwanafunzi hangeweza kulalamikia, lakini ni mimi ambaye nililalamikiwa na mzazi aliyekuja kunisemea kwamba iwapo singetaka kumpa msaada wa *bursary* ningeacha badala ya kumpa *bouncing cheque*, hivyo Mheshimiwa Spika ningemwomba Mheshimiwa Lorunyei, ambaye ni Mwenyekiti kwamba isiwe tu ni suala la kukosa kuripotiwa kama alivyosema, jambo hilo lisirudiwe kwani ni la aibu hata kwa Kaunti nzima ikiwa *Bouncing cheque* inaweza patikana hata kwa *bursary*. Hivyo iwe ni mwanzo na mwisho kwani hizi ni fedha za wananchi na iwapo fedha hazipo basi hapana haja ya kuandika cheki, na mtoto anapopeleka shuleni inakuwa *bouncing cheque*, Asante mheshimiwa Spika.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Lekuchula

**Lodokejek Ward MCA,** (Hon. Lekuchula David): Thank you Mr. Speaker, concerning about the Statement from the Department, the issue of the bouncing Cheques is a criminal case and since that we have seen the Department has a lot of issues that surrounds about the bursary docket. I have not seen any measures that the Department is taking to curb the incidence of the bouncing cheques going forward.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Specially Elected Leader,** (Hon. Lenolkulal Esther): Asante Bwana Spika, Kwa kweli ukiona pahali panapoitwa Ntashata ambapo kwa sasa hamna shule na hamna watu wanamoishi mle. Ningeomba mweyekiti jinsi Mheshimiwa Leerte alivyosema, ni vizuri waangalie mahali ambapo kuna ukosefu wa usalama kwa sababu wakisema kuna miradi ambayo haijawekwa waangalie



vile itafanywa. Tunaona mwaka wa serikali inaisha, tunashangaa vitu ambayo imepeanwa kama kandarasi itafanywa siku gani? na italipwa siku gani?

Katika wodi kama vile Poro Ecd, ninashangaa kwa sababu ikiwa mwalimu anapelekwa transfer inafaa nafasi yake iwe ya nani? Kwa sababu mwalimu akitolewa katika shule hiyo, shule hiyo bado ina wanafunzi na bado inahitaji mwalimu, na sasa tuna mwaka moja na miezi kumi sasa hivi bila mwalimu. Ninafikiri wakati tulifika hapa Mheshimiwa Lerte alilalamika kuhusu walimu ambao walistaafu, wengine wakaenda shule nyinginezo na kulikuwa na mmoja ambaye alifariki. Hadi sasa ninaona muda umeyoyoma sana. Kwa hivyo, mimi ningeomba mwenyekiti arejeele katika Idara mambo kama haya yaangaliwe. Mambo pia ya Cheki ambayo imekataliwa na benki mimi ni Nominated sina Ward fund katika Wodi yangu lakini mimi niko pale nikiona jinsi ambapo Mzee Leerte anasumbuliwa, anawekwa presha kwa sababu akiona bouncing cheques ilizopatikana Poro ilibidi mimi mwenyewe... *(Point of Order from Hon. Lorunyei)*

**Nachola Ward MCA**, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Can the Hon. Member, Mheshimiwa anasimama anaita Mheshimiwa mwenzake Mzee? Angesema Mheshimiwa Fulani, (laughter) aseme tu mheshimiwa fulani kwa sababu hapa ni nyumba ya heshima.

**The Speaker**, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Asante, Hon. Esther, Order, Order Hon Esther hakuna wazee hapa, *(vicheko)* hawa ni waheshimiwa sasa endelea...

**Specially Elected Leader**, (Hon. Lenolkulal Esther): Mr. Speaker Sijamwita Mheshimiwa Mzee, naomba msamaha lakini kweli sijaitana Mheshimiwa Mzee kwa kweli *(vicheko)*.

Nilisema ilibidi niitishe mkutano ya vijana Mheshimiwa Spika, kwa sababu Mheshimiwa Leerte karibu hata apigwe mawe, kwa kuwa vijana walishikana ikasemekana, huyu Mzee ana madharau pole kwa kusema hivyo, *(vicheko)* Mheshimiwa Leerte huko anaitwa Mzee *(vicheko)* kwa boma vijana walikuw awakisema hivyo, kwa hivyo ninaomba msamaha kusema mzee lakini vijana walikuwa wanatumia njia hiyo ama jina hilo kusema ana madharau kwa sababu ya hizo bouncing cheques. Kwa kweli tunaona jambo hilo ni jambo la aibu na ni jambo la kutuletea shida huko mashinani ninaomba lirekebishwe, Asante Bwana Spika.

**Elbarta Ward MCA**, (Hon. Leitoro Jeremiah): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I also stand to comment on the response from the Department especially pertaining to the bursary issue, when there is a

problem I think it is a high time that this House, we should accept that there is a problem and we should look for solutions especially pertaining to this bursary.

As we speak and as confirmed by the Chair Hon. Lorunyei from the Department that indeed the Department was not aware of the dishonored cheques that they received from perhaps maybe it was specific from Poro Ward that one cheque but just to bring to attention to this Hon. House that this thing of dishonored cheques is not necessarily specific to Porro Ward but also other wards have been affected as well, and just to give an example my Ward we also have a number not one, two three not four about cheques that has been dishonored and I have taken initiative, I have written an official letter a complaint letter, letter to the bursary fund manager, I have copied to the County Executive Council Member, to the County Officer and I have also copied to the Governor himself through the Speaker and I have shared evidences that indeed is those cheques have been dishonored and the Department should be able to take responsibility and

1; make sure that the affected students are given first priority in terms of being given another cheque

2; Mr. Speaker when a Cheque usually gets dishonored it always attracts a penalty, I do not know it will be whose responsibility to pay for these penalties, it is true when Hon. Esther says that Hon. Leerte was Cornered by the Youths the same happened to me, because when someone approaches and tells you that in the first place if you did not want to give me the bursary why did you have to give me a blank cheque? We need to take those issues seriously as Hon. Members and despite writing all those letters, I want to inform you that I have not been given any response regarding the same.

Mr. Speaker today we are on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and we only have less than 12 days for closure of the Financial Year, and you find more than 12 Wards have not received a penny in terms of bursary disbursement for these Financial Year and this is worry because when requisition for the bursary fund was done all the amount were provided. We are just disturbed as the reason is to why the bursary that was meant for the ward fund has not been given up to now, some of us are only waiting for these 12 days to elapse then we can be able to raise these other matters. Pertaining to Pit Latrines I want to register my dissatisfaction that the four Toilets that Elbarta

Ward was supposed to have received I want to confirmed that the commencement has not yet started. The Financial Year has elapsed.

The sectorial committee for Education should be able to have an engagement with the Department so that they can be able to have a plan on how we can be able to tackle these issues of bursary once and for all. Secondly, issues of Latrines or any other development issue that pertains to the Department is being implemented as soon as possible, thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Suguta Ward MCA**, (Hon. Leleruk James): thank you Mr. Speaker, I raise to congratulate the chairman for Education for giving us the response. However, the way he Department has tried to answer those questions, it has just answered in a casually way and some issues are waiting. I am asking this Hon. House and the chairman for Education to start an immediate investigation about the issue of these dishonored cheques.

It is a reality Mr. Speaker and this Department has been going up even to the local radio stations pretending to make the Hon. Members not working or not raising pertinent issues, telling us that they have not heard about the dishonored cheques. First I want the chair to withdraw a statement that Suguta ward has not submitted the list. All those bouncing cheques, how can I write another list when the first list I have not received a penny? And you come pretend and say that we have not submitted the list I stand and I said that the list that I have submitted and the one that cheque are dishonored I want that list to be processed immediately or else I take another action.

Mr. Speaker this House is not for jokes we are not defending things that are not right this Department has brought a lot problem even to us political leaders, because those students like the ones in tertiary institutions they are going through a lot of problems and then when we give him another cheque they just put in the social media and say that the MCA is the one who has given him the cheque that has no money.

Mr. Speaker you have to bear with us that the bursary is not taking the good picture it has tainted this county government, as a government that does not honor what they have promised, as a honorable House, I urge all Honorable Members these issues need to addressed so that the Members of the public will know that the Honorable Members are not liars, we are not and we are not bowed to come and tell our electorates we are coming to give you an amount of money

then when you go to school they are given penalties that one I want chair to sort out these issues once and for all.

There is this issue of ward Fund or the issue of these ECD teachers; this County has 583 ECD centers and the number of teacher that we have is just 264. Children in other ECD centers are understudied. There are those people who have been volunteering for the last 12 years. I urge the Speaker and the Hon. Members that we are making Budget now that we need something concerning our youths who are languishing, they have papers, 500 people have graduated with Certificates and Diplomas.

This Bursary has brought us a lot of problems; we can even deduct that Bursary and instead employ the ECD teachers. That is my proposal Mr. Speaker. Even if they do not they should give us the 20 million Ward Fund we have and then every Member will try and find some interns for those small kids to get Education. That is the backbone of our kids; if they do not get proper Education in ECD centers then we are doing nothing.

I urge the Chair and Member to go to that route. It is possible for us Hon. Members to part with 2 or 3 million for let us say 10 interns to cover that work load experienced by the ECD centers. I heard a curious Statement about the proposed centers for this Vocational centers; Suguta is a big town, it is a Sub County, I do not know when this data was collected and when it was proposed; even Lodokejek the best towns that are known then you tell us that Morijo you are proposing where there is no center and in Suguta there is not even a Vocational Center and we even have in our Ward we have public utilities that are designed for those activities you cannot start begging the community to give you a center where you can build those schools.

I am curios and urge the Hon. Member that I want to know when that data was collected, why some Wards have been left and what criteria was used. We are closing the Financial Year and on the issue of toilets in my Ward I have seen that they have dug the pit latrines, it is now full of water, nothing else has gone on; we want to know if those contractors have been paid because I think the reason why they rushed to dig the holes and left them like that without being completed is because they are rushing for money. We want satisfactory information regarding those toilets, thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Specially Elected MCA,** (Hon. Lenamtiyo Silapia): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also stand to echo the sentiments of the Hon. Members on the response brought by the Chairperson on Education. My concern is that when you look at the Department of Education I saw so many girls, when you look at ECD as Hon. Members who stood before me raised those issues. We lack the ECD teachers in our County and the other day they advertised 22 positions for replacement and I wonder what happened that they have advertised and they did not even give out those positions. I think there is a problem somewhere. Even those who applied what was the answer for that? The other Day we were in Wamba for the issue Educational day and what the community has identified, there is a gap.

Our children in ECD schools lack knowledge and even the new curriculum that is now enrolled in schools; then when they go to class one you find a big gap, they do not know how to read and cannot even count 1-10 due to lack of equipment, teachers and materials for the new curriculum. Mr. Speaker I know that you understand the Department better since you were there before you became the Speaker and we have all those challenges.

There are other technical schools like Polytechnic where the talk of Sirata has become a white elephant, it was a flagship project that was even in the other term, we do not see any impact, it is just there they built it, it is very high, I think it is a *ghorofa*; we are not seeing result from it, the community is not benefitting, it is just there to decorate that land there.

So, I think, through our able chair, you can as well follow up on the Sirata Polytechnic to know the status and also if they lack funds because even the department are not talking, Now that the department is better because we have a C.O in place who is in-charge of vocational trainings.

*(Point of Order by Hon. Leleruk)*

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Point of Order from Hon. Leleruk, not Lekuchula.

**MCA Suguta Ward,** (Hon. Leleruk James): Point of order! Mr. Speaker, I want to tell the Hon. Member that the Sirata polytechnic is not under County government, it is under National government.

**Specially Elected MCA,** (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Okay, thank you Minority Leader but even though it is under National government, I know the County is supposed to give support to that

polytechnic. So, Hon. Speaker, I know we have a CEO who is in place who looks at the Vocational Training, what is the Vocational training giving also. Okay, thank you. On the issue of bursaries, it seems that the department, I do not know if they are ignoring members or else, I know that I have no any Ward Fund bursary but when you hear of the cries of the Hon. Members on the issue of bouncing cheques and the issue of disbursing bursary, you will see there is a gap because when somebody raises an issue of bouncing cheque and reports to the department but the department goes on ignoring then I should term that as a problem.

The problem here Mr. Speaker is I think that I do not know what to say of the people in those offices as I think there is something political in there and that is why the people are not doing their job thus performing on the issue of sidelining other members, others given bursaries and others not given, that is a bad picture that they are reflecting to the community because when you go to the Radio Station *Serian* and telling people that we have already released bursary while contradicting our Hon. Members that represent them who are saying that they did not receive any bursary, they had received a little one which is another problem because when you give individual students the cheques while some have not yet received then it becomes a big problem.

The issue of toilet as I think is a basic need to our young children and my advice to this department is as we go on in closing on the Financial Year, I know we are going to pass our Budget Estimates for considerations, let us also look on our priorities because when we construct classrooms and there were those that were constructed almost 10 Years ago, and might not be in good state, when we have a classroom that has no teacher inside, then we say that the Classroom is not functioning. If we have a Teacher in a Classroom without Toilets and Kitchen then we can term the ECDE as not complete. I call upon the Hon. Members that let us make the ECDE centers that we have fully functional so that we better the background of Education for our children as they move on to Class 1, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Specially Elected Member,** (Hon. Lekirenyei Sarah): Asante sana Bwana Spika, ningependa kuchukua nafasi hii kuwakaribisha Vijana wetu wa SUSA (Samburu University Student Association) pamoja na viongozi wao ambao tuko nao siku ya leo, Ningependa kusema karibuni sana. La pili, ningependa kuwaunga mkono wenzangu wote kwa yale waliyozungumzia siku ya leo. Kweli kabisa sisi kama Kamati ya Elimu hatuna usaidizi, nikikichukulia kwa mfano wakati

tulipowasilisha Majibu kuhusu Kituo Cha ECDE kule Lodungokwe, na tulipowasilisha hapa hivi, hakuna aliyeshughulika tena katika kusaidia na hata kufika kuangalia yanayoendelea kule.

Kwa kuzungumzia *Bouncing Cheques*, ningependa kuwaeleza waheshimiwa wenzangu kwamba hatukuweza kuona cheki hizo, wangeweza kuleta ili tuone. La tatu ni kuwa ni leo ndio tumeweza kufikisha ripoti kuhusu Katibu wa Idara ya Utumishi kwa Umma na kwa matarajio ya Mwenyezi Mungu, anaweza kupata ajira na ataweza kuja kushughulikia mambo ya ECDE, kwa sababu mnalalamika kuhusu kukosa Walimu na mambo mengine. Lakini kwa sasa, hatutaweza kufanya chochote bila ya kuwepo kwa Katibu wa Kaunti katika Idara ya Utumishi kwa Umma. Asante Mheshimiwa Spika.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Before I give the Hon. Stacy, I also want to welcome the University students, I know the members are discussing the issues that concerns you so much that is the bursary so therefore feel welcomed, Hon. Stacy...

**Specially Elected MCA,** (Hon. Stacy Nareyo): Thank you Mr. Speaker, forgive me for my sore throat, mine is to welcome the Samburu University Students Association (SUSA), we were not aware you were coming, feel welcomed. Also about the bouncing cheque which has interrupted most of the students from their learning institutions, I thereby request the Committee on education to talk with the department so as to see if there will be a chance for introduction of direct digital transfer to avoid confusion and issues like this. We have seen other Counties doing it digitally and the money goes directly to the school like in Machakos, they have shifted from the Cheques to this digital transfer and I believe that our County can also adopt it and it would be better, Thank you.

**MCA Ndoto Ward,** (Hon. Lealmusia Ali): Thank you Mr. Speaker; I take this opportunity to welcome the students' representatives for the Samburu University Students Association (SUSA). I blame poor planning for the state of ECDE infrastructure because I believe we all know that employment is a tricky problem and so is our wage bill not only in Samburu but also as a whole country. As I said before, we cannot have functioning ECDEs without teachers being in place, some of us are for the idea that as for now, we even can stop constructing this ECDE classes and rather concentrate on these that do exist to make them functional so as to avoid experiencing problems when constructing more others.



I believe that we will soon have a complete Public Service Board and am sure that the question of unemployment in the ECDE centers will be addressed soon. I am aware that these departments had some allocations on renovation of ECDE centers and I have an issue that Seren in Ndoto Ward, an ECDE Center that was in that list for renovation, I was surprised when I found that materials were just put there by the Contractor as he left and was now asking the neighboring Primary School teachers that were there who said that the contractor delivered the luggage and left. It's only when I went there after some few days to be told that the same Contractor came back and even sold the materials that were meant for the constructions.

I really got worried as you cannot bring some materials to the ground and sell it to the community after some few days while they were meant for renovations. That is my concern, I raised that to the CEC who told me that they will look back at it and what worries me is that we are approaching the end of the Financial Year and I do not know if this will be done or not.

Kindly the Chairperson, you know that we cannot have such an arrangement where the Contractors are given tasks, they do not do it and go back to sell the materials to the community, that is very unfair and I believe that will be addressed, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): The Chairperson can answer the questions before I give my directives.

**MCA Nachola Ward,** (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Asante sana Bwana Spika, nimesikia mengi yaliyosemwa na waheshimiwa, lakini kulingana na maswali matano niliyoulizwa ambayo majibu yake nilikuwa nayo, kuhusu suala la bouncing cheques iliyoulizwa na Mheshimiwa Lerte, ambayo jibu yake ilikuwa ni ukosefu wa habari kwa wale waliokuwa wakiuhisika, na la pili ni kuwa wanatambua kuwa suala hilo ni la kihatia kisheria. Bwana Spika asubuhi ya leo, tukiwa kwenye mkutano wetu kama Kamati ya elimu, tuliwaita watu kutoka idara hiyo ya elimu tuliweza kuzungumzia kuhusu bouncing cheque, fedha za kimsaada kwa ajili ya Elimu, vituo vya kuendeleza masomo ya viwango vya chekechea. Nilielezwa na wao kuwa niwape muda hadi kufikia tarehe 25 Jumanne ijayo, asubuhi ili waweze kuja na majibu pamoja na karatasi iliyoandikwa itakayodhibitisha hayo. Bwana Spika hii ndio sababu yetu ya kupeana muda zaidi kwa ajili ya kupata majibu sahihi. Niliweza kuwahusisha vilevile Waheshimiwa wengine,



akiwemo Mwakilishi wadi wa Elbarta niliyemwita lakini hakuweza kufika na wengine wao walinisukuma ili niweze kuwapa muda hadi kufikia tarehe 25.

Suala la Bouncing cheque limeweza kudhihirika, ila hatukuweza kupeana malalamiko yetu. ukipeleka cheki kwenye benki, hautaweza kurudishiwa kwa sababu ni jukumu lao kuchukua hatua kufuatilia na kujua cheki ilikotokea, kwa hivyo nafikiria kwamba benki haikuweza kufika kwenye ofisi na kuulizia kuhusu wale waliotia sahihi yao kwenye cheki ile na kuwashtaki. Kulingana na kituo cha chekechea cha Ntashata kama ilivyorejelewa na Mheshimiwa Esther, huenda ikawa ni ukweli kwani kamati yetu haikuweza kufika kule kwani kulingana na kaunti, kuna kamati iliyotengwa kwa masuala ya utadhmini, ufuutilizi na kuripoti kuhusu yanayotekelezwa na idara, na katika chumba hiki tuna kamati ya Utekelezaji, inayofuatilia miradi inavyotekelezwa na vilevile maazimio ya chumba hiki.

Hivyo basi hatujapata ripoti kutoka kwa kamati ya utekelezaji ambayo tutaweza kuchukulia hatua kutoka hapo tukiwa kama kamati ya kusimamia masuala ya elimu, ambapo tutaweza kuomba kuwezeshwa na idara ili tuweze kushughulikia ukweli wa mambo pamoja na matokeo yao. Kuna namna mbalimbali ambayo ingetuwzesha sisi kupata ripoti ambayo ni kupitia kwa kamati ya Utendaji inayohusika na utathmini, ufuutiliaji na utoaji taarifa na vilevile kutoka kwa Kamati ya Utekelezaji, kwa vile hatukuweza kupata ripoti yoyote kutoka kwao, kama kamati tutaelekea....

**MCA Ndoto Ward,** (Hon. Lealmusia Ali): Point of Order Mr. Speaker

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): What is your point of order Hon. Lealmusia.

**MCA Ndoto Ward,** (Hon. Lealmusia Ali): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, I would really like to tell the Hon. Member for Nachola Ward that the Implementation Committee does not go to follow up on projects that are done there, the committee does a follow up of acts or policies that are brought to this house, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Thank you, you can continue Hon. Lorunyei.

**MCA Nachola Ward,** (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Asante sana Bwana Spika, amesema ukweli lakini majukumu ya kamati ya utekelezaji yapo kulingana na Kanuni za Kudumu za kisheria, na singetaka kurudia tena kama alivyosema Mheshimiwa.

Bwana Spika ndo nasema kwamba kwa maneno ya Ntashata ECED niatafualitiali lbd nitaandika kwa departments tuombe facilitations na kuelekea kule niltaleta kwa repoti kamili, kwas upande wa bouncing checks kwa Poro kunaye mmoja na Elbarta kunaye zaidi ya moja lakini mimi ni kuelezwa tu hakuna tibitisho kwa hivyo ningeomba zaidi

**The Speaker**, (Mr Lenamarle Stephen): Point of order from Minority leader first

**MCA Suguta Mar Mar Ward**, (Hon. Leleruk James): Mr. Speaker it is worrying if the chairman and vice chair can allege and those are the things that are this honorable members to go to another level and we have those cheque so the issues of claiming that the office doesn't know, they know so let us discuss the way forward.

**The Speaker**, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Lemantaan

**MCA Waso Ward**, (Hon. Lemantaan Kelvin): Thank you honorable speaker and honorable chair we have those cheques we brought them to the office unless you want us to bring those cheques into your office for clarification.

**MCA Nyiro Ward**, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): point of order Mr, Speaker, I sit in the committee and I just want to help my chair. Thank you honorable speaker and I join my colleagues in welcoming the SUSA representatives in the house, and then this is the house, feel welcome and of course accommodated.

I want to believe what just Hon. Leerte has said matters concerning the bouncing cheques it was very clear of course, Hon. Leerte with all due respect has said it and put it in Kiswahili that “iwe ya kwanza na mwisho” that is enough to conclusion the all thing other than going round round, the fact here is they have bouncing cheques they are there so the concern is what is the cause of this bouncing cheques.

We were told as the committee we did inquire the chairman as of course taken troubles, had to invite the executive, the CECs and their groups with a few members who are available, we interrogate the whole thing and it was actually establishes that what causes this bouncing cheques and one is the Exchequer sometimes delay and honorable members “We” sometimes pushes this people, push them and they are sometimes pushed outside their limits then they

expect that maybe the exchequer will be released in a certain period of time but once it delays it will cause definitely that dogma whereby we have students and other learners getting their bouncing cheques. So honorable members

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): point of order from Hon. Ali Lealmusia

**MCA Ndoto Ward,** (Hon. Lealmusia Ali): Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, there are ways we can come up to ensure that this cheques are going to be deposited when our money are ready, when we have money in the bank they should have advice the honorable members that certain dates is when you deposit that cheque are you in order to tell us that

**MCA Nyiro Ward,** (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank you so much, postdating the cheques is there and also the executive said they advise members not to deposit until we actually say go ahead, but I think that when we give the students this cheques without proper instruction this is when the cheque is de[posit]ed immaturity and thus causing the bouncing cheques and I want to believe what Hon. Leerte has just said that just put this matter into rest the chairman has already given us the way forward, thus on 25<sup>th</sup> Tuesday next week he has invites all of us such that we come up with suggestion on how we can put our house in order such that we avoid the issue of bouncing checks.

Another issue here is according to what they have said which I want to believe that the chairman has it and all the members who are there, the executive were saying that of course there is this audit query and it comes about when a actually when the student benefit from the two bursaries especially when the county and ward bursaries are being disbursed and also the ward bursary this bring about the audit query and that is exactly the problem I don't know we are going to put this also together because it is going to be a continuous audit query but it doesn't cause the bouncing cheques but what does it cause? it delay the release of funding until the auditor general is satisfied and says clear with a particular county A,B,C,D.

So this are some few facts that we are suppose need to understand as our members but we appreciate the concern because we all I included we have that challenge of bursary and I want to join the honorable member of Suguta for the fact that sometimes once beaten twice child so when you give out the bouncing cheques it takes time for you to have again that strength to give

out another cheques, so this exactly why members freak out giving other cheques until there is signals of giving now you can going ahead.

So this are some of the things we need to s understand and bear with us and try to push the executive to give us the correct information and status as they have assure us as it stands today they have funds, so let us submit the list and if the list is not prepared lets prepare it meanwhile when the hay is still green let us make use of it, that is it.

On matter of our ECEDs or pre-school teachers or tutors inn that matter honorable members I think it is also said that they are this ceiling of departments, department of education we have come to understand that there is ceiling every is slapped with a ceiling and I was trying tu push some contracts as a members of Nyiro for the employment of the teachers but here is an issue that the recurrent verses development in the department, that is the problem that we should also try to see how the executive are trying to open up or increase the ceiling of the department especially the recurrent to allow much more recurrent such that we can put few coins, maybe 1M or 2M shillings to employ our sons and brothers.

I think that is a very important, because it is period that the house is embracing the budget the budget is within the house and maybe tomorrow we shall seat with the CECs of the departments and can we also see how we can open up the ceiling of the department to allow a few recurrent coins to the department, this is very important for us because when we say just employ, how do we employ? We cannot do that until there is that window for the ceiling at the same time we also appreciate for the fact that tomorrow the chair labor and justice will bring the CEOs for approval when you approve this tomorrow maybe it will open up, and the board will start working because if you wouldn't, there was no employment especially in Samburu county much as there was that vacancy left by the CO so I urge and plea with house that tomorrow let us approve the CO then some openings will be awarded on for our people

We have many men educated, qualified but when the board is not fully constituted there is no room for the employment we know and appreciate the fact that Have around 45% of our wage bill which needs to be done, something must be done because I expected % is around 35% but we are way above 5% but we can work out that one if we have a CO, the honorable speaker sir and the honorable members

This issue of vocational trainings I also want to join the honorable member for Suguta. Suguta is Avery densely populated ad fast growing urban center just like South Horr in Nyiro but I text quickly speaker sir though our standing order No87 SAYS let us not anticipate but of course in I have some facts but I did just a quick test just asking the CO and just like how Hon. Silapia has said there is a CO and it is true there is I had to text quickly and say what about Nyiro because definitely it is a growing center there so many school drop-out who actually need some apprentice. and they say maybe like Suguta could be there were some errors and emission, so this we appreciate. With those much remarks,

Thank you Speaker sir, let the House bear with us, we shall improve, 25<sup>th</sup> we invite you we engage with the department. Thank you.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): I want to give out a direction, Hon. Chair. Yes Hon. Chair.

**MCA Nachola Ward,** (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, I was the one answering the question and the Members have not answered the question because about the bouncing cheque, we deferred that; on 25th next Tuesday, they are going to give us most detail about it because it has not reached to the office.

Mr. Speaker, on bursary, they are saying that it is ongoing but they will bring comprehensive reports that day. On 22<sup>nd</sup> also, they were just reporting on the progress of the toilets in every Ward, that's why they are saying that in Porro, 80% done toilets and 50% going on.

Mr. Speaker, on Ward fund, to supplement the employment of the teachers, that is now the talking or negotiation between the MCAs who are in charge of the Ward fund and the department so that they will know what allocation they can and then with some pumps. You know when you give something, there is also some terms to give out.

Mr. Speaker, on the proposed Vocational Training Centers, it is not limited only to Wards, like now in Nakuru, there are 50 Technical Vocational Centers, so there are places in a Ward whereby there are two, so it depends now on the Wards with ECDE centers Mr. Speaker. So, it not limited to only those... every Ward need to establish one because we have got drop outs there, we have people who want skills there, we want people who want to be empowered there.

So, it ought to be in every Ward and as many centers so that to take services closer to those people so that we can make use of them.

Mr. Speaker, on the issues of teachers, as answered that, we have got 530 teachers against 44,049 learners... answer (3) says that;

- a) The department has a significant shortage of ECDE teachers County wide with only 530 teachers against the enrollment of 44,049 learners which translates a ratio of 1:83 against the guidelines of 2018 of the people ratios, which says that regular pre-school classes, the ratio would be 1:25. So, that shows that we have got shortage of teachers Mr. Speaker.

Further, the department says that; the strategy as per the CIDP 2023/2027 (County Integrated Development Fund), is a request on recruitment of at least 30 teachers annually but it has not been done due to funds. So it is upon the Honorable House to allocate lot of money so that we shall honor our CIDP of employing 30 teachers annually.

Mr. Speaker, about the Sirata as the Hon. Member said, but it has been answered that that is the National Government function it is not in the County Government function so we don't say much about it.

Mr. Speaker about digital transfer as said by Hon. Stacey that is another issue we can think about concerning the shapes, that is now the way maybe we can borrow so that we can involve the digital transfer and maybe we cannot experience about bouncing cheque.

Mr. Speaker as said by Hon. Lealmusia about the planning of departments, there are poor plans, I do not understand, you know in every department we have got technical people and political appointee and technical people include the directors, engineers whereby they give the technical parts because they are technocrats to the CEO who is the County Officer or the day to day administrator and again to the appointee again to the ECDE, so maybe there is some laxity there. Whereby, it is the work of this Honorable House because our work here is oversight.

Who are we over sighting? We are over sighting the department so it means that maybe they are relaxing because according to their training or learning they have got some expertise or some skills of advising maybe they have not made it into use Mr. Speaker so it is high time we oversight as it is one role of this Honorable House.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot give all answers by now because we postponed that on 25<sup>th</sup> this month in the morning they will come with the progressive answers to everything maybe at that time we are going to give a comprehensive answer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker**, (Hon. Lenamarle Stephen): I want to give a direction, are you in a point of order or...

**Specially Elected MCA**, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Thank you Hon. Speaker, I am just on a support of Hon. Lealmusia concern on the issue of poor planning. I think we have plans in this County, we have the CIDP and IDP and if the department could have followed the way the CIDP is and also generate budget from the ADP, it could not bring such poor planning in to our department.

So, Hon. Speaker, my concern is, the department should follow the CIDP and also the ADP, so that we could not have such gaps because if we could have followed our CIDP also the ADP, we could filled the gaps that we have now. Thank you.

**The Speaker**, (Hon. Lenamarle Stephen): I now want to give a direction, Hon. Members, Hon. Leerte has raised a matter of utmost importance concerning the issuance bouncing cheque by the Samburu County bursary committee, and this issue has significant implication for our county's reputation, financial management and wellbeing of our students. I therefore direct that the chairperson Committee on Education and Vocational Training, to bring a more detailed report regarding the statement raised by Hon. Leerte next week Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

So, Hon. Chairman, once you meet the department on 25<sup>th</sup>, you give us the report here on 26<sup>th</sup> concerning the same.

**MCA Nachola Ward**, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Most obliged Mr. Speaker.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**The Speaker**, (Hon. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members, the time being 17 minute to 5 O' clock, and there being no any other business, this Assembly now adjourns until Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 9:00 am.