

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

THURSDAY 9TH MARCH, 2023

Afternoon Sitting

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

HANSARD OFFICIAL REPORT

THURSDAY 9TH MARCH, 2023

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRAYER

PAPERS

**REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON HEALTH SERVICES ON THE
FACT FINDING ACTIVITY ON THE STATUS OF COLLECTION AND USAGE OF
OWN GENERATED REVENUE ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN RESPECT TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SANITATION**

Hon. Jerusa Aleu: Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I rise to table a report by Sectoral Committee on Health Services on the fact finding activity on the status of the collection and usage of own generated revenue on development projects in respect to the department of Health and Sanitation.

NOTICE OF MOTION

**REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON HEALTH SERVICES ON THE
FACT FINDING ACTIVITY ON THE STATUS OF THE COLLECTION AND USAGE
OF OWN GENERATED REVENUE ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN RESPECT
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SANITATION**

Hon. Jerusa Aleu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise once more to move a notice of motion that this House adopts the report by the Sectoral Committee on Health Services on the fact finding activity on the status of the collection and usage of own generated revenue on development projects in respect to the department of Health and Sanitation.

STATEMENTS

**BUSINESS OF THE WEEK COMMENCING FROM
TUESDAY 14TH TO THURSDAY 16TH MARCH, 2023**

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to inform this House of the business of the coming week.

Tuesday 14th March, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

Papers

1. Task force report on scholarship audit of the County Government of Bungoma October, 2022
2. Report by Public Accounts and Investment Committee on the Auditor General's report on the staff Car and Mortgage Fund for the year 2018-2019, 2020-2021.

Notices of motion

The report by Public Accounts and Investment Committee on the Auditor General's report on the staff Car and Mortgage Fund for the year 2018-2019, 2020-2021.

Statements

Statement sought by Hon. Jack Wambulwa from the chairperson Sectoral Committee on Roads, Transport, Infrastructure and Public Works on the implementation of CEF Road projects in Kimaeti ward in the financial year 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

Motion

Report by the Sectoral Committee on Health on the fact finding activity on the status of the collection and usage of own generated revenue on development projects in respect to the department of Health and Sanitation.

Wednesday 15th March, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Papers

1. Task force report on the pending bills audit of the County Government of Bungoma October 2022
2. Report by the Budget and Appropriations Committee on Bungoma County Fiscal Strategy Paper for the financial year 2023-2024.

Notices of motion

Report by the Budget and Appropriations Committee on Bungoma County Fiscal Strategy Paper for the financial year 2023-2024.

Statements

Statement sought by Honorable Anthony Luseneka from the chairperson Sectoral Committee on Roads, Transport, Infrastructure and Public Works on the construction of Lumoro-Namirembe Road.

Motion

Report by the Public Accounts and Investments Committee on the Auditor General's Report on the Staff Car and Mortgage Fund financial year 2018-2019, 2020-2021

Wednesday 15th March, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

Papers

1. Task force report on human resource audit of County Government of Bungoma October 2022
2. Report by the Sectoral Committee on Tourism, Water, Environment and Natural Resources on the status of KOICA I and II projects in Bungoma County.

Notices of motion

Report by the Sectoral Committee on Tourism, Water, Environment and Natural Resources on the status of KOICA I and II projects in Bungoma County.

Motion

Report by the Budget and Appropriations Committee on Bungoma County Fiscal Strategy Paper for the financial year 2023-2024

Thursday 16th March, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

Papers

- A report by the Sectoral Committee on Lands, Urban, Physical Planning and Housing on the assessment of implementation status of Kimilili and Bungoma municipalities since inception.

Notices of motion

- Report the Sectoral Committee on Lands, Urban, Physical Planning and Housing on the assessment of implementation status of Kimilili and Bungoma municipalities since inception.

Statements

- A statement informing the County Assembly of the weekly business coming before the House from Tuesday 28th Thursday to 30th March 2023

Motions

- Report by the Sectoral Committee on Tourism, Water, Environment and Natural Resources on the status of KOICA I and II projects in Bungoma County.

That is the program for next week.

(Applause)

STATEMENT ON ILL STATE OF MUYAYI VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Hon. Ken Wanyama: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 47 (2) (c) of Bungoma County Standing Orders, I hereby seek for a statement from the Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Education and 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 student enrolment and almost turning out to be a while elephant project. In the response, let the chairperson inquire into and report on the following issues;

1. When the center was commissioned
2. Why the greatly marketable courses like masonry, plumbing and tailoring are not offered in the institution
3. Why the center offers only garment making course and only tutor has been posted there
4. What the department is doing to have the VCT well equipped of both personnel and various courses for training so as to attract more students.

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula (Chairperson, Education): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Considering the issues raised in the statement and in view of the short recess that is around the corner, I humbly request on behalf of the committee that you favour us with 21 days to revert to this House with an appropriate response.

Temporary Speaker: The request is granted and we expect the response on 13th of March.

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: Madam Speaker, you have said 13th March?

Temporary Speaker: 30th March not 13th.

MOTIONS AND BILLS

REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON THE FACT FINDING VISIT ON THE STATUS OF ECDE CENTRES FOR THE FY 2017/2018 AND 2018/2019

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula (Chairperson, Education): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to move a motion on the report of Education and Vocational Training on the fact finding visit on the status of ECDE centres for the FY 2017/2018 and 2018/2019.

PREFACE

On behalf of members of Education and Vocational Committee, and pursuant to the provisions of the Bungoma County Assembly Standing Order No.202, I present to this House the Committee's report on the fact finding exercise on the status of ECDE Centres during the financial years 2017/18 and 2018/19.

Committee in its siting discovered that they could not come up with a comprehensive report unless it visited the institutions and also engage the relevant officers. The committee thus came up with an inventory of all the ECDE institutions as submitted by the CECM. (See annex1)

The purpose of this report therefore, is to oversight the development budgetary allocations to the County Department of Education and Vocational Training and to recommend on how future

projects can be improved in respect to proper implementation of projects for the benefit of the county residents.

Additionally, the committees' objective was to find out value money if realized by the County Government in particular upon allocation of funds to these crucial projects.

Madam Speaker, if you allow me I will skip the committees mandate because it is in the Standing Orders.

Under the Second Schedule of Second Edition County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Order 218, on the second schedule on sectoral committees, this committee is obligated to look into all matters related to pre-primary education, vocational training Centres, village polytechnics, home craft Centre's and childcare facilities.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee on Education and Vocational Training as currently constituted comprises of the following members:

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. | Hon. Benjamin Otsiula | Chairperson |
| 2. | Hon. Stephen Kaiser | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. | Hon. Ali Machani | Member |
| 4. | Hon. George Makari | Member |
| 5. | Hon. Joan Kirong | Member |
| 6. | Hon. Abraham Waliekeke | Member |
| 7. | Hon. Linda Kharakha | Member |
| 8. | Hon. Mildred Barasa | Member |
| 9. | Hon. Jacob Psero | Member |
| 10. | Hon. John Wanyama | Member |
| 11. | Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba | Member |
| 12. | Hon. Aggrey Mulongo | Member |
| 13. | Hon. Jack Kawa | Member |
| 14. | Hon. Allan Nyongesa | Member |
| 15. | Hon. Christine Mulongo | Member |

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Allow me thank the Office of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the logistical support accorded to this committee during the processing of this report. Equally, I appreciate members of the committee together with the secretariat for their commitment towards production of this report.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Order No.202 (7), I now table this report for adoption by the House with the recommendations therein.

Signed by Hon. Benjamin Otsiula, Chairperson - Education and Vocational Training

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 devolves to County Governments the responsibility to design, plan, fund and deliver quality ECDE services, in order to build a solid foundation for human capital and socio-economic development. Further, devolution of the ECDE to county governments resonates with Section 26(1) of the Basic Education Act NO. 14 of 2013, which additionally elucidate, that county governments are responsible for funding the development of required infrastructure for institutions providing ECDE services.

According to Safety Standards Manual, it stipulates that safety of the learners is central to the provision of quality education in any country. While this is true for learners at all levels of education, it is particularly critical for learners at the basic education level in view of their relatively tender ages. Children of this early age are vulnerable to threats such as bullying by their older colleagues. Apart from personal threats, insecurity for children can also emanate from inappropriate school facilities and infrastructure. These may include poorly constructed classrooms, playing grounds, insufficient and broken down toilet facilities, inadequate and inappropriate desks and other furniture.

From the submissions made by the Department of Education and Vocational Training, it is observed that during the FY 2017-2018 the department was allocated Kshs 144, 375, 932 and 2018-2019 Kshs. 68, 250, 000. The County Government of Bungoma constructed new classrooms in 141 ECDE centers whereby 121 had been completed as at the time of our visit, while 18 were at various completion stages.

In line with the committee's work plan for the financial year 2022-2023, and in exercise of its mandate, the committee resolved to undertake a fact finding exercise on the ward based development projects specifically ECDE Centres that had been budgeted by the department for the financial years 2017/18 and 2018/19. That notwithstanding, the purpose of this exercise therefore, was to establish the financial prudence for the funds allocated and the extent to which the funds were expended.

From the foregoing background, the fact finding exercise had three main objectives as listed hereunder;

- a) The general status of the ECDE Centres in the county;
- b) The adequacy and suitability of ECDE Centres toilet facilities
- c) The type of ECDE furniture used.

METHODOLOGY

In order to understand the entire implementation and procurement process, the committee requested for the following documents from the Department of Education and Vocational Training;

1. Names and location of all ECDE Centres.
2. Budgetary allocation towards these Centres

3. Procurement, tendering procedure and BQs for all the ECDE Centres
4. The payment reports for all payments done
5. Balance payable up to date
6. Completion status of ECDE Centres
7. Additional structures in the ECDE Centres.

The committee also made a written request to all 45 ward managers through their respective MCA'S requesting the following information:

1. The completion status of the projects i.e. ECDE
2. If the classrooms are furnished
3. The general outlook of the building

Finally, the committee under- took site visits to the ECDE Centres earmarked for implementation under financial year 2017/18 and 2018/2019 to ascertain the exact implementation status. This was done by taking photographs, interviewing project managers and head teachers while checking the real status vis-a-vis the submitted documents.

FACT FINDING EXERCISE ON THE ECDE PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR IMPLEMENTATION DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2017/2018.

During the Financial Year 2017/18 the department of Education and Vocational Training had a budget allocation of Kshs. 144, 375, 932.00 against commitments of Kshs.150, 079, 483.90 for implementation of ECDE projects across the county. As at 4th January 2022 a total of Kshs. 126, 899, 183.41 had been paid to contractors. In the financial year 2018/2019 the department proposed and awarded contracts for ECDE projects in 19 wards across the county. These projects were allocated Kshs. 68, 250, 000 from which Kshs. 62, 257, 642 had been committed and Kshs. 52, 229.22 shillings already paid to the contractor as at 4th January 2023. The following wards were beneficiaries of ECDE projects during the year under review. The following projects were proposed and implemented during the financial year under review at ward level;

MIHUU WARD

Construction of one ECDE classroom at Froy Lugulu PAG Primary School and Murumba Primary Schools in Mihuu Ward was done in the financial year 2017/2018 and 2018/2019. These projects were contracted at a contract sum of 4, 140, 960.00 contract number BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/6 7/2018/2019. The project is indicated as complete, Kshs. 4, 182, 405.00 paid out with a balance of Kshs. 41,445.00.

Committee Finding

The Committee ascertained that the entire two ECDE classrooms are complete and are in use. The only aspect is for the periodical repairs and maintenance to be undertaken on the said units. Also needed is the furnishing of the said classrooms for them to have good learning environment for the learners.

NAMWELA

In Namwela Ward the department proposed to construct ECDE classroom at Nabeki, Namutokholo, Butunde and Sengeteti Primary Schools. These projects were contracted at Kshs. 5, 411, 680.00 against an allocation of Kshs. 6,000, 000; contract number BGM/CNT/EDU/CEF/OT/73/2018/19. The project is indicated as complete with Kshs. 3, 373, 540.01 having been paid to the contractor and Kshs. 2, 038, 139.99 as balance due.

Committee finding

During the visits it was noted that the projects had been implemented to completion and are operational apart from Sengeteti Primary where no construction had begun.

KHASOKO WARD

In Khasoko Ward, the department awarded a contract for construction of ECDE classroom one each at Namanze, Bwaliro and Lubunda Primary Schools. These projects were to be implemented at a construct sum of Kshs. 4, 056, 130.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 4, 754,562 contract number being BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/80/2018-2019. As at 4th January 2023 the projects were indicated as complete, Kshs. 3, 850 paid, 188.05 and a balance due of Kshs. 205, 941.95.

Committee Findings

During an interview with the Head Teacher of Namanze Primary School, he indicated to this committee that the one classroom funded by the County Government is complete and operational but is not enough for pupils in PP1 and those in PP2 forcing them to use old structures. Equally, the committee noted the lack of toilet facility for Namanze ECDE where the early learners are forced to share toilets with their colleagues in primary section making them vulnerable.

MATULO WARD

In Matulo Ward, a contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classrooms each at Webuye DEB and Matulo Primary Schools at a contract sum of Kshs. 1, 997, 989.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 3,000,000. According to the report submitted to the committee, the projects are indicated as stalled, retendered and on-going at 50% complete with a balance due of Kshs. 1, 997,989.00.

Committee findings

During the fact finding visit, we established that the project stalled with no indication of on-going works. This project is at the roofing level hence incomplete and not operational. At Matulo primary School the ECDE classroom project has equally stalled at roofing stage as can be seen below;

TUUTI/MARAKARU WARD

The department of Education and Vocational Training proposed and awarded contracts for construction of one ECDE classroom at Lumasa, Buema, Bukusu, Mungeti, Sitoma and Nakayonjo at a contract sum of Kshs. 7, 487, 800.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 6,000,000. The contract number for this project is indicated as BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/164/2018/2019. The projects are documented as complete and operational with Kshs. 6, 682, 522.90 having been paid to the contractor and a balance due of Kshs. 805, 277.10.

Committee findings-The ECDE's in the ward was constructed in the FY 2018/19 were majorly started in the FY-2017/18

The classroom though being used, they need repairs and furnishing. There is massive peeling of the paint and equally window panes are greatly shuttered in most of the classrooms visited.

NAITIRI/KABUYEFWE

The contract was awarded for construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom at Pwani FYM, Kewa DEB and Sirende Primary Schools contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/72/2018/2019. The classrooms were to be undertaken at a contract sum of Kshs. 4, 190, 960 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 3, 000,000. These projects are indicated as complete, Kshs. 4, 189, 230.97 having been paid to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 1, 729.03.

Committee findings-The projects are complete and operational just like indicated in the report submitted to the committee by the department of Education. However, the floor at Kewa DEB needs to be redone.

CHWELE/KABUCHAI WARD

During the Financial Year under review, construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom was undertaken at Mukhweya Primary, Lufutu SA, Matibo fym, Sirwa DEB, Walukaya DEB and Nairubi DEB. The projects were contracted at Kshs. 6, 961,000 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 7,000,000, contract no. being BGM/CNTY/CEF/OT/76/2017-2018. The projects according to the departmental report presented are complete, Kshs. 6, 812, 352.79 paid to the contractor and Kshs. 148, 647.21 as balance due.

Committee findings-The ones done in the financial 2017/18 are complete but require repairs and maintenance.

At Makhonge Primary School, an ECDE classroom project was proposed for implementation during the financial year 2018/19. The project as can be seen hereunder has stalled at the lintel stage. It has a brick wall different from majority ECDE classroom projects which are stone walled.

MISIKHU WARD

In Misikhu Ward one ECDE classroom and one pit latrine were proposed for construction at Sirisia, Chengoli and Misikhu Primary Schools at a contract sum of Kshs. 5, 891, 400 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 6,000,000. This amount equally involved a construction of a facility at Sirisia Vocational Training center. As at 4th January 2023, Kshs. 4, 267, 986.61 had been paid to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 1, 623, 413.39. They are complete and operational.

Committee findings-The ECDE classrooms are complete and in use and only requires the periodic maintenance and repairs. The classrooms require refurbishing.

KIBINGEI WARD

A contract was awarded for construction of 3 no. classrooms at Saenyi, Namakhele and Allan Bradley Primary Schools at a contract sum of Kshs. 3, 993, 490 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/69/2018-2019. The projects are complete, Kshs. 3, 823, 760.95 paid to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 109, 729.05.

Committee findings-The ECDE classrooms visited were all operational and in use. They required repairs, maintenance and furnishing.

We have photos for all those classrooms.

SOUTH BUKUSU WARD

The department awarded contracts for construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom at Nakholo, ECDE classroom and toilet at Nandingwa, ECDE classroom and toilet at Tabuti Primary and ECDE classroom and ECDE classroom at Tulumba Primary School at a contract sum of Kshs. 4, 442,223.55. The projects are complete and operational Kshs. 4, 442, 223.55 having been paid to the contractor with Kshs. 222,176.45 as balance due. Contract no. BGM/CNTY/CEF/OT/61/2018-2019

Committee findings-The three ECDE classrooms visited are complete and operational although the proposed toilets were not constructed. It was noted that at St. Johns Nakholo, one side of classroom, the roof had been blown off by wind which puts learner's safety at risk. Additionally, due to a high enrollment the single classroom had been partitioned using cardboards to be used by pupils in PP1 on one side and those in PP2 on the other side.

SOYSAMBU/MITUA WARD

A contract was awarded for construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom at Bishop Wabukala and Namunyiri RCEA in Soysambu at Kshs. 2, 464, 060.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 2,000,000, contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/62/2018-2019. The report indicates the projects are complete, Kshs. 2, 459, 256.61 having been paid to the contractor and Kshs. 4, 803.39 as balance due.

Committee findings-The classrooms are complete and in use but require periodical maintenance and classroom furnishing to suit the young learners.

MUSIKOMA WARD

In Musikoma Ward under the financial year 2018-2019 a contract was awarded for construction of 1 no. classroom and toilet at Namamuka, Okanya and Sio Primary Schools at Kshs. 4, 410, 715 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 4,500,000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDUC/CEF/OT/71/2018-2019

Kshs. 4,190, 715.00 had been paid to the contractor and a balance due of Kshs. 220, 000.00. The projects are complete and operational.

Committee findings-The ECDE classrooms are in use and require some repairs and maintenance. In addition they also require furnishing.

MUKUYUNI WARD

A contract was awarded for construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom at St. Charles Buyanji and Makhonge Primary School and renovation of Mukuyuni Vocational Training Centre at a contract sum of Kshs. 3, 745, 396.40 against a contract sum of Kshs. 3,000,000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/70/2018-2019. As at 4th January 2023, Kshs. 3,726,268.93 had been paid and a balance due of Kshs. 19,127.47.

The projects are indicated as complete and operational.

Committee findings-The project at St. Charles Buyanji is complete and functional though requires repairs i.e. replacement of window panes, flooring and wall painting. Equally, there is no toilet facility and inadequate furniture for the learners at this Centre.

NDALU/TABANI WARD

In Ndalua Ward a contract was given for construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom and pit latrine at Musangura and Nzoia Primary Schools at a total cost of Kshs. 3, 536, 770.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 1,600,000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/74//2018-2019. Kshs. 3,303,266.60 had been paid to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 31, 503.40. They are indicated as complete and operational

Committee findings- At Nzoia Primary School both the ECDE classroom and pit latrines were done while at Musangura Primary School it is only the ECDE Classroom that was done thus both classrooms are complete and operational.

KIMAETI WARD

A contract was awarded for completion of 1 no. classroom at Masielo and Tulukuyi Primary School at Kshs. 3,536,770.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 1,600,000, contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/81/2018-2019. So far Kshs. 3, 505, 266.60 has been paid and balance due of Kshs. 31, 503.40. The project is complete and operational.

Committee findings-The ECDEs constructed in the mentioned financial year are complete and in use and require some periodic maintenance and furnishing.

TONGAREN WARD

The Contract was awarded for proposed construction and completion of ECDE and pit latrine at Makololwa, Mabusi and Milimani Youth polytechnic at Kshs. 5, 891, 900.00 within a budget allocation of Kshs. 6,000,000.00 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/OT/89/2018-2019. The project is complete, Kshs. 5, 831, 450.65 paid with a balance due of Kshs. 60,449.35.

Committee findings-The committee confirms that the contract was executed to completion although with elements of poor workmanship.

KAMUKUYWA WARD

A contract was given for construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom and Toilet at Namasanda Primary School Primary school at a contract sum of Kshs. 1, 594, 470.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 5,500,000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/OT/CEF/142/2017-2018. As at 4th January 2023, Kshs. 1,596, 051.75 had been advanced to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 1,581.75. This project is indicated as complete.

Committee findings-The ECDEs in the ward constructed in the specified financial year are all not complete except the Namasanda ECDE classroom.

KAPTAMA WARD

In Kaptama Ward, a contract was given for construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom at Chepksoikel and Kiptiriko Primary Schools at Kshs. 3,366,540 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 2,000,000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/OT/CEF/142/2017-2018. Kshs. 3, 365,066.80 was paid to the contractor and a balance due of Kshs. 1, 473.20 thus project indicated as complete.

Committee findings-The ECDEs in the ward done in the specified financial year are complete however, they require repairs and furnishing.

LUUYA/BWAKE WARD

A contract was given for construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom at Matunda, Chekulo, Misiri RC, Namikelo, Sango and Nangubo Primary Schools at a contract no. BGM/CNTY/OT/CEF/146/2017-2018 at contract sum of Kshs. 8, 048, 219.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 7, 500, 000. The projects are documented as complete, Kshs. 8, 047, 523.20 having been paid to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 695.80.

Committee findings-As evidenced here below the ECDE classroom at Misiri Primary School although complete and operational, requires renovations in form of replacement of broken window panes, re-flooring and painting. Further, there is need to provide enough suitable furniture and toilet facility.

NDIVISI WARD

In Ndivisi Ward, a contract was awarded for construction of 1 no. ECDE classroom at Sinoko PCU Primary School at a contract sum of Kshs. 1,360, 670.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 1,000,000 contract number BGM/CNTY/OT/CEF/159/2017-2018. This project is indicated as complete, Kshs. 1, 084, 623.20 having been paid to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 276, 046. 80.

Committee findings-The ECDE classrooms are complete in the mentioned institutions but require some repairs and furnishing.

SIBOTI WARD

A contract was awarded for construction of an ECDE classroom at Napara ACK and Lurare Primary schools at a cost of Kshs. 2,801, 140.00 against an allocation of Kshs. 3,000,000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/OT/CEF/159/2017-2018. As at 4th January 2023, Kshs. 2, 370, 454.98 had been paid to the contractor and Kshs. 430, 685.02 as balance due. Both projects are indicated as complete.

Committee findings-The ECDE classrooms are complete and in use but there is need to repair and furnish them so that they are more conducive to learners.

KABULA WARD

During the Financial Year 2017-2018 a contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classroom at Lukusi Primary and construction of a workshop at Kabula VTC at Kshs. 3,574,100.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 4,000,000 contract no.

BGM/CNTY/OT/CEF/167/2017-2018. So far Kshs. 3,563,035.20 had been paid to the contractor and Kshs. 11, 064.80 as balance due.

Committee findings-The ECDE classrooms done in the said financial year are complete and require periodic maintenance as well as furnishing.

BUKEMBE WEST

The Contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classroom at Matumbufu and Chemche Primary Schools at Kshs. 3, 165, 858.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 3, 169,708 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/RFO/109/2018-2019. Kshs. 1, 722, 716.00 has been paid and a balance of Kshs.1, 443, 142 as due to the contractor.

There was also construction of one ECDE classroom in Khaoya and Namirembe primary school. At an allocated amount of ksh.3, 434,230.Though the amount was inclusive of the total allocated amount to construct a classroom at Muyayi VTC

Committee findings-The ECDEs mentioned are complete and in use, however they require maintenance and furnishing.

WEST SANG'ALO WARD

In West Sang'alo Ward a contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classroom and pit latrine at Siangwe, and Kamba Primary Schools at Kshs. 3, 36,200.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 2,800,000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/RFO/120/2018-2019. The projects are documented by the department as at 100% complete and Kshs. 2, 818,389.80 paid for the contract with Kshs. 545,810 as balance due.

In West Sang'alo Ward too, the contract was given for renovation of 2 ECDE classrooms and construction of pit latrine at St. Theresa's Sang'alo R.C Primary School at Kshs. 957, 494.90 within a budget allocation of Kshs. 1,000,000.00 contract no. indicated as not applicable. As at 4th January 2023 Kshs. 683, 013 had been paid to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 274, 382. This project is presented in the status report as complete.

Committee findings-The ECDE classrooms are complete and in use. They require repairs and furnishing.

SITIKHO WARD

In Sitikho Ward the department earmarked to construct ECDE classroom at Mukite Primary School at a cost of Kshs. 1,287, 120.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 1,200,000.00 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/RFO/120/2018-2019. This project is documented being

100% complete and the contractor so far has received Kshs. 1,999, 960.00 with a balance due of Kshs. 87,160.

Committee findings-The ECDE in the financial year mentioned is complete and in use and like majority of the ECDE's done under that financial year they require maintenance and furnishing.

WEST BUKUSU WARD

A contract was awarded for construction of an ECDE classroom at Lwanja polytechnic. The allocated sum was also to cater for construction of 2 door pit latrine at the ECDE located at Lwanja Polytechnic and fencing of Ng'oli and Namuningie VTC School at Kshs. 1,995,446 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 1, 997,000. So far Kshs. 1,422,305.70 has been paid to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 573, 141. This contract is complete basing on the report submitted to the committee.

Committee finding-The ECDE classroom is complete and the pit latrines are in use but require repairs and furnishing.

MILIMA WARD

In this ward there was a contract that was awarded for construction of ECDE classroom at Milima, Mukuyuni and Maliki Primary Schools at Kshs. 3,881,352.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 4,500,000.00 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/RFO/113/2018-2019. As at 4th January 2023 Kshs. 3,963, 525.11 given a surplus of (82,173). This project is complete.

Committee findings-The committee established that the classrooms are complete but in dire need of repairs and maintenance as a result of poor workmanship.

Another ECDE construction was done in the FY-2018/19 which entailed one ECDE classroom at Mukhuyu, Milima, Riverside and Mufupi primary schools. The sum contracted was ksh.3,908,654.80. The balance currently is ksh.238,475 owed to the contractor.

The projects are fully implemented but quite small in size thus not enough for the learners at the facilities. We noted poor workmanship in terms of walling and flooring. There are pictures to confirm poor flooring.

EAST SANG'ALO WARD

In East Sang'alo ward a contract was given for Construction of ECDE classrooms at Khakula and Musakasa Primary schools at a cost of Kshs 2, 427,200.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 3,000,000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/RFO/113/2018-2019.

This project is indicated as complete and Kshs 2,470, 916.00 paid to the contractor giving a surplus of Kshs 43,716 above the contract sum

Committee findings –The ECDE classrooms are complete and in use. They however require some repairs and also furnishing.

MALAKISI/SOUTH KULISIRU WARD

In Malakisi/South Kulisiru Ward a contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classroom at Nabuloli Primary School at Kshs. 1,200,000.00 an amount equal to budget allocation of Kshs. 1,200,000. The contract no. is indicated as not applicable. This project is complete and the entire amount has been paid to the contractor.

There was also the construction of an ECDE each at Lumasa, Buema, Bukusu, Mungeti, Sitoma and Nakayonjo primary. The contracted sum was ksh.7, 487,800.00 and the balance is ksh.805, 207.10 owed to the contractor

Committee findings-The ECDE centers mentioned are complete and operational but they require maintenance and furnishing

BOKOLI WARD

A contract was awarded for erection and completion of ECDE classroom at Lukuku, Bokoli R.C and Sawa Primary Schools at Kshs. 3, 515, 809.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 4, 450,100 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/RFO/285/2018-2019. So far Kshs. 3, 331, 121.25 has been paid to the contractor with a balance due of Kshs. 183, 688. This project is complete.

Committee findings-The majority are in use but Lukuku primary ECDE classroom has cracked walls and was condemned for use yet the contractor was fully paid. The structure is dangerous to the learners in the institution.

BUMULA WARD

Mr. Speaker, in Bumula Ward a contract was given for construction of ECDE classroom at Mtua, Lurare And completion of Musiya Primary School at a cost of Kshs. 3,444, 370.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 2, 600,000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/CEF/RFO/114/2018-2019. As at 4th January 2023 Kshs. 3, 241, 822.20 had been paid to the contract with a balance due of Kshs. 201, 548. This contract is indicated as 100% complete.

Committee findings

All the three classrooms are complete and operational however implementation was done during the FY 2019/2020. The single classrooms are shared by both PP1 and PP2 learners without appropriate toilet facilities.

MAENI WARD

In this ward, a contract was awarded for erection and completion of classroom at Namboani VTC, Maeni and Kamusinde Primary School at a total contract sum of Kshs. 4, 315,340.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 4,300,000 contract no. BGM/EDU/CEF/RT/284/2018-2019. As at 4th January 2023 Kshs. 4,266,433.60 had been paid to the contractor giving a balance due of Kshs. 48,906.40.

Committee findings-The ECDEs in the financial year mentioned are complete and in use though require repairs and furnishing.

Both projects are complete and functional though require a facelift in terms of painting and repairing of broken window panes. These ECDE Centers lack proper and suitable toilet and furniture.

KAPKATENY WARD

In Kapkateny Ward, a contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classroom at Kamuneru Primary School at a contract sum of Kshs. 1,673,340 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 1,500, 000 contract no. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/RFO/110/2018-2019. In regard to the status report submitted to the committee this project is complete and Kshs. 1, 670, 851.24 paid to the contract giving a due balance of Kshs. 2, 488.76.

Committee findings-The ECDE classroom in the ward done in the FY -2017/18 and 18/19 are complete and in use though require some repairs and furnishing.

KIMILILI WARD

In this Ward a contract was given for construction of ECDE classroom at Khamulati, Punda and Misikhu S.D.A Primary School at Kshs. 4,455,760.00 against a budget allocation of Kshs. 4,500,000. Contract No. BGM/CNTY/EDU/CEF/RT/301/2018-2019. To this end Kshs. 4, 453, 796 have been paid to the contractor and Kshs and Kshs. 1,964 as balance due. The project is classified as complete.

Committee findings

The committee visit at Punda Primary School Ecde project confirms that this project is complete and functional. This project requires appropriate furniture for the learners.

KIBINGEI WARD

In Kibingei Ward a contract was awarded for completion of ECDE classroom at Chebukwabi and Daraja Mungu S.A primary Schools at Kshs. 2, 926, 380.00 beyond a budget allocation of Kshs. 2, 650,000.00 contract no. BGM/CNTY/CEF/RFO/726293/2018/2019. This project is indicated as complete as Kshs. 2, 704, 613.21 has been paid to the contractor and Kshs. 221, 767 as balance due.

Committee findings

A spot check by the committee at Chebukwabi Primary School revealed that the project was done to completion and operationalized. However, it lacks a toilet facility and furniture for the learners.

Observation

Complete and operational ECDE classroom at Chebukwabi Primary School

BUKEMBE-EAST

In Bukembe East, a contract was awarded for erection and completion of construction of ECDE classroom at Industrial area and Sango Primary at a cost of Kshs. 1,721, 231 within the budget allocation of Kshs 1,721, 231 contract no. BGM/CNTY/CEF/RFO/726736/2019/2020. The status report submitted to the committee indicates that the project is at 40% complete and on-going after retendering was done having stalled for some time. To this extend Kshs. 1,721, 131.00 is balance due to the contractor.

Committee findings

The ECDEs are stalled and the committee was informed that the contract had been retendered and the construction was on going which was not the case as by the time of the fact finding there were no signs of material on site.

CHEPYUK WARD

In Chepyuk a contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classroom at Somotwet, Saria and Sarek Primary Schools at a tune of Kshs. 4,538, 569.60 within a budget allocation of Kshs. 4,700,000. The contract no. was not indicated in the submitted report. As at 4th January 2023 Kshs. 2, 221, 981.95 had been paid to the contractor giving a balance due of Kshs. 2, 316, 588. The project is documented as on-going at 60% complete.

Committee findings

The committee found that the Construction works for the said ECDE was stalled and there were no signs of construction

CHESIKAKI WARD

In Chesikaki a contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classrooms at Chesikaki FYM. Chesiywo, Chemondi S.A, Kabero and Bukonoi Primary Schools at a cost of Kshs. 6,750,900.00 with a budget of Kshs. 6,800,000.00.

As at 4th January 2023 Kshs. 4, 053, 195.55 had been paid to the contractor and Kshs. 2, 697, 704.00 as balance due. This contract is indicated as on-going at finishing level.

Committee findings

During our visit we established that projects had been fully done and operational at Chesikaki Primary, Kabero Primary and Bukonoi Primary. Further, the committee took note of non-installation of window panes at Bukonoi Primary School ECDE project.

The ECDE classroom at Chemondi Primary was done to completion in the financial year 2020/2021 though not operational.

The ECDE classroom at Kabero is non- existence, while that at Chemondi is complete. Kimea and Bukonoi are on-going. On Kabero, the Chief Officer from the Department said that the contractor got lost on the way and ended up going to Chemondi where the project is complete and Kabero pushed to the next financial year.

LUUYA/BWAKE WARD

A contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classroom at Nangili R.C, Chekulo Baptist and Marobo Primary Schools at Kshs. 3,599,800 within a budget allocation of Kshs. 3,600,000.00. To this end the projects are complete and Kshs. 3, 599, 115.76 has been paid to the contractor giving a balance due of Kshs. 684.00.

Committee findings

The ECDE in the ward are complete and operational though they require some repairs and classroom furnishing.

LWANDANYI WARD

During the financial year under review, a contract was awarded for construction of ECDE classrooms at Kaburuet, Chebukunyi, Kaprot, Namubila, Namawanga, Tulienge, Kibindoi and Kapendo Primary Schools at a tune of Kshs. 5, 099,990.00 way below a budget allocation of Kshs. 9,350, 00.00. The projects are documented as stalled at 50%, retendered and on-going at

completion. The report indicates that the entire contract amount is yet to be paid to the contractor.

Still in Lwandanyi under the same financial year Kshs. 1,000, 000.00 was allocated for purchase of 525 desks for 8 ECDE classes which was done 100% according to the report submitted to the committee though the benefiting schools were not listed in the said report.

Committee findings

At Namubila the project was complete and operational with elements of poor workmanship being noted. Kibindoi Primary School Ecde project stands out as the best implemented project among the visited projects in the entire county. This classroom has a well done terrazzo finish unlike the rest of the projects with poorly done plastering.

Observations

Kibindoi ECDE Centre with a terrazzo floor finish

WEST NALONDO WARD

In this ward, a contract was given for construction of an ECDE classroom at Luucho Primary School at Kshs. 1, 194,215.00 within a budget allocation of Kshs. 1,200,000. As at 4th January 2023 Kshs. 1, 137, 961 had been paid with a balance due of Kshs. 56,254.

Committee finding

The ECDE in the ward constructed in the financial year 2018/19 is in use currently. The Classroom though requires repairs and furnishing.

It should be noted that the Wards not captured in this report did not have ECDE classroom projects in the FY-2017/18 or 2018/19.

These include;

1. Township,
2. Khalaba,
3. Mbakalu
4. Maraka

COMMITTEE'S OBSERVATIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

The committee observed that;

1. ECDE classrooms are inadequate compared with the enrolled population hampering realization of Strategic Development Goal (SDG) no. 4.

2. The availability and suitability of sanitation, was inadequate and unsuitable for use by younger learners.
3. Most classrooms lacked furniture suitable for the young learners.
4. Implementation of the ECDE projects was delayed by the prolonged procurement processes and in-capacity of some awarded contractors leading to either stalling, cancellation or retendering of some projects.
5. Most of the ECDE classroom projects proposed for implementation during financial years 2017/18 and 2018/19 were implemented in the financial year 2020/21.
6. There were visible elements of poor workmanship in most of the implemented projects indicating lack of supervision by the department
7. Majority of the projects already implemented require renovations.
8. There were indicators of contractors' incapacity in regards to construction of the ECDE classrooms a case of Makhonge Primary ECDE classroom in Chwele/ Kabuchai Ward.
9. Some classrooms looked smaller in size as compared to others e.g. in Milima ward.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The committee recommends as follows;

1. The County Government of Bungoma through the county Department of Education and Vocational Training should construct at least two classrooms at every ECDE Centre to cater for PP1 and PP2 due to the ever increasing enrolment of the learners.
2. The County Government to increase the budgetary allocation towards the ECDE Projects for it is one of the key constitutional mandates they have to undertake.
3. The County Government should endeavour to construct suitable toilet facilities for ECDE learners at each ECDE centre separate from those being used by their primary school counterparts.
4. The county government should provide suitable furniture for the learners in all earlier constructed ECDE classrooms throughout the county and THAT equipping of the classrooms should be made part of the construction contract for future projects.
5. Procurement processes should be expedited and contracts awarded to contractors with capacity through due diligence to ensure projects are implemented within the earmarked financial years to avoid carryovers.

6. Close supervision should be done during the implementation of the projects and rogue contractors who do shoddy works should be black listed to ensure value for money.

7. The department of Education and Vocational Training should provide a kitty for regular maintenance and renovation of already constructed classrooms.

Madam Speaker, that is the report and of course we have the adoption schedule. All Members of the Committee have appended their signatures on the said schedule. I now call upon Hon. Allan Nyongesa to second.

(Applause)

Hon. Allan Nyongesa (Member - Education): Thank you Chair for recognizing me as your active Member in the Committee. I rise to confirm the document read by the Chair on Education and Training, that it is a true copy of what we discussed and wrote. I second.

Temporary Speaker: Thank you Chair for Education and Vocational Training and Hon. Allan for seconding the report. I now put a question that this House adopts the report by the Sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training on the fact finding visit on the status of ECDE Centres for the financial year 2017/2018 and 2018/2019.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Bernard Kikechi: Thank you Madam Speaker for giving me the chance to contribute to the just tabled Education Committee report. First, I would like to uphold and congratulate the Chair of the Committee for an elaborate, well researched and written report. You have done a good job with your Committee.

As I support the report, there are highlights that are worth my attention especially where the Committee was proposing that instead of constructing one ECDE Classroom; we should at least construct two to cater for the cadre. It is something that we should empress and support. There was also the issue of increasing budgetary allocation that is an issue that we should support as a House because education especially for our young ones is very key and by allocating enough money to that worthy course, should be supported by all.

For our young ones in ECDE, it is also important that they should have separate toilets so that they don't share toilets with older ones. It is a good observation from the Committee and I support.

Some of the contractors are being given these contracts yet they don't have the capacity to do the jobs. And thus they delay to finish the contracts. I support the Committee recommendation that we sieve through the contractors and those ones whom we find that in one way or another delayed or did shoddy work, then they should be blacklisted.

In Mbakalu Ward, the contract has been awarded for construction of three classrooms that is in Misikhu, Nabiswa and Miyuke Primary. I hope that the contractor that has won the contract will expedite and do a good job. Otherwise, it is a good report from the Committee on Education. I support.

Hon. Everton Nganga: Thank you for giving me a chance to contribute towards the report. First I would like to congratulate the Chair of the Committee. When you look at the report you will find that it is long and he has read it eloquently. I also want to congratulate Members of the Committee and Members of who have remained behind to listen to the report. One of the core functions that were devolved by the National Government is Education. It was not devolved fully as a Ministry to the County Government but part of it which is the ECDE and VTC.

You will discover that most of the projects that were done in our schools to construct ECDEs, most of the money was from CEF kitty which means that those Honorable Members did a good job to allocate some funds to construct ECDE classrooms in their Wards and I laud them for a good job.

They have recommended that the County Government should take a step to construct two ECDEs; it is a very good recommendation.

I did not hear anything from the report where they mentioned that the County Government through its allocation or funds from the Ministry. I just heard about money from CEF which means that it is the work of Honorable Members. In the recommendations, the County Government should also be coming in to construct ECDE Classrooms.

(Applause)

Basing on the report, when you go to those Schools, you will discover that the ECDE's children are very many. I have constructed some in my Ward; you will find that one classroom was partitioned so that it can accommodate different levels of pre-primary classes, which indicates that the population is very high.

I wish that we have a Liaison Officer here to take this report to the executive that they should also take a step to construct those classes instead of leaving them to Honorable Members only. This means that if a Member does not allocate funds in a year to construct ECDE classrooms then nothing will be done yet it is a core function of the County Government.

I urge the Honorable Members that even if the report has recommended that the County Government should set aside maintenance money, just like roads, you can construct a road but in one or two years, it can be in good state but after that, it will be dilapidated. So the County Government should also set aside money for maintaining those classes. If not we will also have to go an extra mile to set aside money for maintenance.

There is a problem affecting those children; they have no toilets or latrines. These ECDE pupils are young, when they come from the classrooms, they finish their calls right away. When you move around their classrooms, you will discover that there are droppings around. It is bad. Such environments are not healthy for learning. As Honorable Members, we should allocate funds to construct pit latrines. Where we construct those classrooms, we also set aside funds to construct latrines.

To wind up, let us also ask the County Government to introduce *Uji* programme. It will motivate children to be going to those classrooms to learn. Otherwise, I applaud the Committee and support the report.

(Applause)

Hon. Jacob Psero: Thank you for this opportunity for me to air out a few things on Education Department. First, I want to thank the Chairperson who is also my Chair for going through this report with a lot of ease. He has been audible enough and I think we have gotten the information very well.

It has been noted by Members that most of these ECDE classrooms are incomplete and I'm wondering why because from the report, we have heard that there is a lot of maintenance remaining and this one is raising a case of pending Bills. I'm asking the County Government to move with speed and complete these classrooms particularly the painting, window pens, fasteners and the worn out floors since we have money. Otherwise we shall be able to get a big figure of pending Bills and yet money is available for this.

On contractors, I agree with what my colleagues have said. We need competent contractors and it is my request that these classrooms are just available in the local areas and we have competent contractors in rural areas and I don't know why you should be able to bring somebody from far to come and build these classrooms. When will we give opportunities to the local people to benefit from these projects, so that they can also earn a living.

There is also a problem of one contractor taking over so many class rooms and once he makes a mistake in one classroom, the same is applied to the rest. Like you move to these schools and find that the shortcomings in these ECDE Classrooms are the same throughout. In my Ward, the problem is mainly the painting, worn out floors, lack of window panes and other small shortcomings.

Let us decentralize these activities and be able to give room to the local people for them to benefit as residents of Bungoma County.

The issue of Kabero ECDE in Chesikaki Ward and all along I have been raising this issue and so far I have not had the solution. The report is indicating the classroom is complete and in use, yet when you go to the ground, this classroom does not exist. For how long are we going to talk

about Kabero which does not exist? It is my humble appeal that this House directs the County Government to move with speed and be able to construct this ECDE classroom. The parents of this particular school are really complaining and are waiting to see when this project will be completed because it has taken too long. A case has been raised that these kids are given something to sit on rather than sitting on the floor.

In addition to the furniture, it is my humble appeal the way Hon. Nganga has mentioned, that we do the feeding programme. These are young kids who require a lot of development that feeds the brain. They require food, clothing and many other things. It is my humble request that the County Government considers the issue of feeding programme particularly the Uji and some lunch. It will be good for them so that they at least become active in learning and be able to do well.

Otherwise I'm wondering that the project is incomplete and yet the contractor has been paid. What criteria did they use to pay? Who issued the completion certificate? And what action are you going to take against this particular person? It is my suggestion that we take stern measures against the concerned because that is the practice and that is the issue that make us suffer.

By the end of the day, it is the MCA who will be blamed that the project is not complete and yet somebody has taken the money and disappeared leaving behind issues of pending Bills. I hope this House will take appropriate measures to counter this matter. This rate is going to continue and we might have more problems in future..

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, there is a very big disconnect between the department of Education and the Public Works. You look at the drawings and the Bill of quantities that come from the Ministry of Public Works, and the amounts that are required, and you even imagine that you have allocated funds for construction of an ECD in a place where there are no latrines and the BQ that is supposed to contain Construction of latrines, you find out that the people from the Ministry of Works have drawn a BQ minus the toilets.

How can you construct a classroom where learners will be and there is no latrine for them? When you look at the amounts allocated, there is good amount that should construct a classroom plus the latrines. So the Chair Education and the Committee Members should endeavour to correct that issue because it is an issue that the Public Works are bringing to fruition and it is becoming a big problem in our County. Most of the ECDEs are there. You ask the contractor, where are the latrines? The contractor answers by saying that the latrines are not in the BQs, meaning we will construct classrooms and the small kids will continue visiting the latrines that belong to the older children.

The second issue, you being a renowned teacher Honourable Speaker, you know the young people especially those ones who are in PP1 and the PP2, the instruction time takes some one hour or two hours, then they require a time where they even just sleep. Even in their timetable,

those ECDE teachers who are here, there is a programme where they are supposed just to rest, they need a place where they can sleep for some 30 minutes or one hour. We have not managed to come up with a structured design that can also take into consideration where this young people can rest when they are tired. You know they are very active. They do a lot of activities in the classroom and outside jumping then they reach a time where they need to rest. Private schools have provided for all these and that is why sometimes private schools are more competitive than public schools because they have provided what is required for by the syllabus. We must come up with a defined structure as a County that will cover the PP1 and PP2 plus some resting area for the young people.

In my ward, there were two ECDE centers that were constructed, in the subsequent year. There was one that was constructed which has not been opened so far. It is just there. The third year again, a contractor is given to construct three ECDE, a contractor who has no capacity at all. He visits the place; we go there to hand over the project in public. He comes in the area and constructs to some level and disappears in thin air up to now. The Department of Education should be proactive; they should terminate such contracts as per the law. You know we have a law that governs contractors when they have been handed over the site, so we should use the law on a contractor that sets foot on the site and disappears, who are the great losers? It is the people of Bungoma. They may have not paid these contractors like the one that is in my ward, but you see, the winner was put in the budget and you know justice delayed is justice denied to those young people. We are supporting the part of the report that says such contractors should be blacklisted; they should not be given work in our wards because they are wasting our time, resources and our young children.

This is not happening in my ward alone. When you look at that report critically, you will find out that very many of the ECDEs have been abandoned and the issue is lack of capacity on the side of contractors. The County government must find a way of establishing contractors who have capacity. They fill in papers very well, apply, put all the documentation but when the real issue comes where we expect them to construct those classrooms, it becomes a very big issue. Otherwise, I support this report. The chair has been very eloquent, the recommendations are okay, and it is just now a question of implementing the recommendations.

Temporary Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Chemion. I call upon Hon. Stephen our Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Stephen Wamalwa: Thank you honourable Speaker for granting me this opportunity. I also rise to support the report, the chair was eloquent and to the point with proper emphasis. As Bungoma County, I think we have not done so well in that department of Education, because as it was well said by one of the members on the floor of the House, the Kenyan government devolved some functions and one of them was basic education.

ECDE is a core function that was devolved and is very basic. It is a department that should be looked at with passion. I know Madam Speaker, you are a teacher and when we talk about ECDE

you understand. Children at that level are just like a white page of a book that has not been written in anything, where now everything that you want will be put in. Children at that level are very keen to transform their lives and any foundation that is laid for success in future is laid at the early level of learning

Unfortunately, for Bungoma a case in point, we have run away from our core mandate and we have embraced something else. Today when you come from Bungoma, you will only hear honourable members, politicians, parents even bystander, touts at stages or bus stops and boda boda riders talking about one thing, scholarship. We have run away from our core mandate of early years in education.

(Applause)

I wonder why as a parent you have your own children and you don't want to feed them but you go and feed somebody else's children, and you feel so proud that you are doing your work. It is a shame. The core mandate of any devolved government is early childhood in education, and these other things like scholarships or whatever you are calling them and you are being afraid that when you talk about them, you are going to lose elections. It is unfortunate members. I know honourable members here are afraid to talk about this issue because we know we are going to loose elections, and people are proud and happy.

If indeed Bungoma wants to produce people who are worth in education, I want to believe they could lay a ground and foundation in ECDE by ensuring that they are doing what we call equalization. That every rural area and every public school must have a quality modern ECDE centre from which the knowledge and brains will be shaped and this will come out when they reach at the assessment level for example, we have now what we call CBC. They will stand equal with others in private schools and others in urban centers. If the government did that, I am very sure children from Chepyuk will have equal opportunity with children from Bungoma DEB, Pwani primary and Marell academy. But we have failed and we are running to pick other people's children, in fact there is something that is going on in Bungoma that parents are taking their children to private schools to be prepared and then they are brought back in class 7 so that they can score high marks... 400 marks to be given a scholarship.

This House is much superior to the Executive because it is this House that appropriates money to the Executive. The Executive does not appropriate money for this House. It is you honourable members and I want to believe that at some point, we shall be so strong that one time while we are still living, while we are servants of Bungoma, one day we will have to be brave enough and face the monster. Apart from constructing classrooms, ECDEs should be equipped; we should not take pride in just constructing those buildings because a building without equipment is nothing. These children should have toys, you are parents and you know that when a child is born, there is a period of time that you have to buy toys. There is a time the men in the House even go to an extent of buying your children bicycles. I think I am right, and you go to an extent

of very many things that I don't want to enumerate here, but you do them in the process of encouraging them and for them to learn, to develop their cognitive skills, to make them leave that comfort zone of their mothers and venture out, so that they develop their skills. Are we doing that to our ECDE children? Aren't we the fathers and mothers of these children? I want to beseech this House, that even when we are just approaching the budget cycle, this is the time that we appropriate funds towards this department purposely for purchase of ECDE equipment, and this equipment.

Otherwise, we are doing badly and it is a shame that we cannot even say that people can come to Bungoma to bench mark in terms of education, because if you have failed in the syllabus of our level, you cannot purport that you are doing well teaching children a syllabus which is not in your level. I support this report and propose that as we enter into the budget cycle, let us appropriate funds first.

Temporary Speaker: Thank you Hon. Stephen Wafula. I now call upon Hon. Makhanu.

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. First of all, I would like to appreciate the committee for the work they have done. It is an eye opener. I will agree with my colleagues, these are our children and it is the foundation of their lives. When they are born, we call them bundles of joy. Why are we putting them in misery? From the report, there is one denominator that came out, poor workmanship of those classrooms. As Hon. Chemion said, there appears there is disconnect between the Public Works department and Ministry of Education. I don't know if we have officers in those departments. Some of these classrooms are barely six months old and they require repairs; we are not getting value for money. These contractors are our own brothers and sisters, even if they want to make profits, they are cutting corners with the lives of our children. Soon a classroom will collapse and kill our children. As members of the House, we have to make sure that these classrooms are safe for our children.

Another thing is we cannot just put up a House without equipment ourselves, these children require the best, going forward maybe I propose that any ECDE classrooms now to be put up, let it go hand in hand with a toilet for the toddlers. We cannot allow our children to mix with others now we have even the junior secondary and they are sharing toilets with the toddlers. It is high time our children are provided with good sanitation.

We come to contractors now, we have seen contractors who have been given the work and done poorly being given another job again. A case in my ward, there is a contractor I suspect now he has been awarded to do some work in my ward and he did very poor work coincidentally at the ward of the chairman of Education. I am told he did some poor work there putting up some solar street lights. Instead of doing the due diligence before they award, he has been awarded work again. We have to be very careful and hard on these contractors because they want us to give them jobs; we give them but they do very poor work and still we continue awarding them.

Going forward, I propose any contractor who has done work that has not been up to standard be backlisted. Even these public work officers as other members have said there are BQs to be followed but you go on the ground and when you compare the BQ and work that was done, some sections have been overlooked. Either way, we have to give a stern warning to our officers in the works office to do their work professionally. Those were my concerns but I support the results.

Temporary Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Makhanu. Let me have Hon. Waiti. Kindly use the dispatch

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Although in your opening remarks after putting a question, I was number 3 on the list, how I have come to be number 18 raises a lot concerns.

Temporary Speaker: But you switched off, proceed please.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: I am not complaining but it is just a concern. I rise to congratulate the Chairperson of the sectoral Committee on Education for the conclusive work and best work done on this report. The report reflects the true picture on the ground especially where I come from, the Naitiri/Kabuyefwe ward.

The three schools mentioned in the report namely Kewa DEB Primary school, Sirende and Pwani schools that are in my ward, when you look at the allocation it was originally 3Million but the contractor was awarded Kshs.4, 190,960, which is 1 Million more than the initial allocation, but even after having been given such an amount, in the report still the work is shoddy. I request through the committee, if they can go dig further and establish the intention of additional 1 Million and where the contractor took the money now that the work is not complete on those 3 classrooms.

There is a school in my Ward by the name Siumbwa RC Primary School where the award was given to a certain contractor in the financial year 2020/21 and up to now, he has not started the work yet. One may wonder who awarded the tender, who should make follow ups to ascertain if the work has started or not. At the same time you may wonder what was the time frame in the contract and what measures has the department concerned taken to make sure that they cancel the tender and re-award now that we are moving three financial years down the line.

We are talking about the lives of the young ones and this must be delicate. When we take our young ones to school, we expect that they start learning new things in their lives and when they reach there, they are now learning that the environment has not changed. That means nothing is being done to change the atmosphere of these learners. The ECDE education as it has been mentioned by my colleagues is the core function of the County governments. When the government shared functions, it is a core mandate and that means we must as a government do our work.

The department must create an atmosphere that is so friendly to the young ones so that the young ones must be happy going to school than sitting at home. When we have such shoddy structures done by our contractors then it means that we are not encouraging these young ones to do as we expect.

It is my humble request through the Committee on Education that you may consider this and be tough on the executive, so that they put measures in place so that such contractors must be blacklisted then we will move as a County. I support the report.

Temporary Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Waiti. Hon. Chikati,

Hon. Timothy Chikati: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to congratulate the chair for education for the good report that he has presented to the floor of the House. I want to echo sentiments that have been made by honourable members. I don't want to add more but it is my humble request to the chair for education that when they go to site visits, they should take photos of inside the classrooms. I have only seen pictures of outside buildings. In my ward the two ECDEs that have been mentioned that is Nzoia and Musangura; I have been there personally. They are in a very pathetic state and was told that the contractor was not using the approved sand. He was getting sand from the road which is just dust, so as they mix cement it cannot even last for a month. My plea to the education committee is that kindly when you do site visits and especially now that you have to do the one for VTCs, kindly get the pictures of the inside so that we see what is going on inside there.

The learning environment itself, we are talking, PP1 and PP2 ranging from 3-6years. When they do their education, they need somewhere to rest. Those facilities are not there. Those are some of the things that the Committee on Education has to look into.

On the quality of those building, like one ECDE in Musangura my ward, they have done the ECDE. In the report they are also talking of pit latrine but the latrine is not there. We don't just want to read things in the reports but on the ground things are different. At the end of the day, as one of the members has said here, it is coming back to us. It is our responsibility as members of this House to check on who were awarded the contracts, total sum amount involved and was work done or incomplete.

Temporary Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Chikati. I think the pictures should be coloured once, so that we can see them clearly. Hon. Cheseto,

Hon. Martin Cheseto: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to also applaud the chair for coming up with a report on the status of affairs of ECDE centers within the County. My ward has not been captured so the report is not conclusive. I don't know the status of my Ward whether there were projects that were done or it was just an oversight or money was used and the committee conversed with those in authority not to include my Ward. So I support the report but with inclusion of information of Cheptais ward.

Temporary speaker: Thank you, Hon. Cheseto. Hon. Ipara,

Hon. Johnstone Ipara: Ahsante sana mheshimiwa spika kwa kunipa wakati. Nataka kwanza kwa kupongeza mwenye kiti wetu wa elimu kwa kutupea taarifa ambayo imeweka mambo yote jinsi yalivyo katika sehemu ambazo tunawakilisha. Naanza na kusema ya kwamba msingi maalum wa mtoto unategemea elimu ya chekechea, wakati hajapata msingi mzuri katika elimu ya chekechea huyu mtoto hawezi akanawiri katika darasa za mbele. Kwa hivyo nataka kuomba ya kwamba kupitia viongozi wa bunge hili, kwamba wakati tunajadili pesa ya bajeti pesa nyingi ziwekwe katika jukumu maalum la kaunti kwa sababu jukumu maalum la kaunti ni mambo ya masomo ya chekechea na mambo ya zile taasisi za kiufundi ambazo huhusika na kujenga vijana katika kazi ya mikono, nafikiria tumepotea pale.

Naibu wa Spika alivyosema ingawaje ameweka akili yake kwenye simu yake nafikiria atanisikiliza kidogo, pesa zetu nyingi tumepeleka katika mambo ya kufadhili wanafunzi na tukasahau jukumu letu maalum. Ndio sababu serikali yetu kuu ya kaunti haijatenga pesa zozote za kujenga au kuimarisha madarasa ya chekechea. Pesa wanazotegemea ni zile zimepewa waakilishi wa wodi katika pesa za CEF. Na ningependa kuuliza kwani serikali yetu ya kaunti haishugulikii ujenzi wa madarasa? Kwani zile pesa hubaki katika wizara huwa zinafanya nini? Nafikiria kuwa huu ndio wakati sisi kama waakilishi wa wodi tunafaa kuwajibika na kuuliza maswali magumu na kupewa majibu magumu. Ndio tukienda kule kwa watu wetu tunaielewa ni nini kinachoendelea. Leo hii ukipita barabarani utasikia watu wetu wanasema hata mtoto ako kwa ufadhili lakini mzazi wake anaomba sare za shule pia asaidiwe. Na sisi kama wazazi tumesahau majukumu yetu. Kwa hivyo tukikutana hivi karibuni ni lazima tuulizane maswali magumu tukosane lakini tupate njia ambayo itatupelekea kupata kusuluhisha matatizo ya watu wetu.

Mazingira ya kuvutia katika madarasa ya chekechea; nimeona ulifanya kazi na ulitembea kule kwote. Wakati ulipotaja Makololwe niliguswa roho kwa sababu nilijua kwamba uliona vile mambo yalivyo katika shule hiyo. Ninachotaka kusema ni kwamba Chekechea kile kitakachovumtia mtoto kwenda shuleni ni mazingira ya kuvutia katika darasa la chekechea. Darasa liwe na picha za kuvutia, liwe na wanyama ambao mtoto huambiwa huyu mnyama ukimuona unakimbia; lakini madarasa yetu ya chekechea ukienda hayana lolote. Na mwenyekiti nakusikitikia kwa sababu kazi hii unaifanya kwa ugumu na unaulizwa maswali na wazazi na hauna majibu ya kuwapa. Lakini matatizo hayo yote yamesababishwa na wale ambao hawajali kuhusu masomo ya watoto wa chekechea. Na swali tunalouliza ni je, tunapata dhamana ya pesa zetu? Mheshimiwa Spika nasema hatupati dhamana katika pesa zetu ambazo sisi tunapeana kwa sababu kwenye ripoti iliyosomwa na mwenyekiti inasema madarasa yamekamili lakini kiwango chake hakivutii. Madarasa yamemalizika lakini kuna maporomoko ndani. Kumbuka madarasa haya ni ya watoto wa umri wa kuanzia miaka minne ambao wanahitaji msaada. Kwa hivyo Mheshimiwa Spika naomba mapendekezo yaliyotolewa yaangaliwe kwa kina na yafuatiliwe na mwenyekiti apewe pesa za kuyatekeleza. Mimi ninaunga.

(Applause)

Temporary Speaker: Ahsante sana, mheshimiwa Ipara. Ningependa kumualika Mheshimiwa Mutiembu.

Hon. Everline Mutiembu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. First of all, I want to thank the committee for the good report that they have moved before the House. I am wondering if the committee did a fact finding in my ward that is Malakisi/South Kulisiru ward; because those schools that were mentioned in the report are from Marakaru but not from Malakisi. I just want to make corrections that during those financial years Malakisi/South Kulisiru ward; 12 classrooms were constructed; of which I can mention for the benefit of the committee, they include Malinda SA, Kibeu, Navuloli, Lutaso, Kulisiru primary, and Bisunu primary schools. Otherwise, I support the report Madam Speaker.

Temporary Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mutiembu. Hon. Kuloba. you have just arrived and you want to contribute; I don't know what you want to contribute on. Continue Hon. Kuloba.

Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba: Asante Bi Spika kwa kunipa fursa hii kuchangia mswada huu. Langu kulingana na taarifa ambayo imesomwa na mwenyekiti wa kamati ya elimu naona ni kama kuna uzembe mahali fulani; hasaa katika ujenzi wa madarasa haya. Hii ni kwa sababu kuna sehemu fulani utapata ripoti inasema kuwa madarasa yalikamilika na yanatumika; lakini unapoingia kwenye shule zenyewe hupati hayo madarasa. Kuna maafisa wazembe kwenye kazi hasaa katika idara hii ambao wanafaa kufuatiliwa ili ijulikane pesa za haya madarasa zilienda wapi hasa hapa Township Ward; kwa mfano; kuna shule inaitwa Moi DEB...

Temporary Speaker: Hon. Allan which information? Whom do you want to inform?

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: *(On a Point of Information)* Bi. Spika mheshimiwa Jeremiah ni mmoja wa wanakamati katika kamati ya elimu. Alikuwapo tukiandaa hii ripoti, yale anayosema angeyasema tulipokuwa tukiandika ripoti.

(Applause)

Hon. Jeremiah Kuroba: Asante Bi. Spika. Namshukuru pia yeye kwa kuchangia huu mswada. Wale watu waliokuwa katika kamati iliyoandika hii ripoti, sio wote wako hapa kuna wale ambao hawakuwepo. Hivyo langu ni kuwajulisha kuongeza uzito kwa yale mambo ambayo mwenyekiti wangu amasema. Nikimalizia, ningependa kusema kuwa sisi wenyewe tunafaa kuhusishwa katika kazi hii. Tujitume kuhakikisha kuwa miradi hii imekamilika.

Temporary Speaker: The chairperson to now reply.

Hon Benjamin Otsiula: Thank you Madam Speaker for giving me this opportunity to reply to this motion. First of all, I want to applaud and appreciate the efforts of the Honourable members for sitting through the entire afternoon and making contributions to this motion. I also wish to

associate myself with the sentiments of the Deputy Speaker and the honourable members that under schedule 4 of our Constitution; ECDE is one of our major mandates; or one of the core mandates of the County governments. It is therefore imperative that we put a lot of emphasis on the issues of ECDEs to ensure that we prepare our learners at the early stages of development.

Further, I wish to respond to what Hon. Chikati has alluded that the report was not explicit as far as construction of toilets at Nzoia Primary is concerned; the report is explicit and we have a photo to the effect that a toilet was completely constructed at Nzoia Primary so it is not correct that we don't have pictures to the effect.

I also agree that we must have sufficient budgetary allocations to ensure that we improve on the infrastructure in the ECDE centers. Therefore; I call upon my fellow honourable members in this House that when we deliberate the issue of the supplementary budget, let them put into consideration to allocate enough money to equip our ECDE centers to give our learners a very conducive environment.

Finally, I also want to agree that the executive arm of the County government must also step up and provide for further finances to support whatever is allocated under the CEF kitty. Otherwise, Honorable members, I want to urge you to support and pass this motion.

(Applause)

Temporary Speaker: Thank you Chairperson - Education and Vocational Training Committee. I also take this opportunity to thank you honourable members for your beautiful sentiments on this report. I now take this opportunity to put a question that this House agrees with the report by the sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training that this house adopts the report on the fact finding visit on the status of ECDE centers for the financial year 2017/2018 and 2018/2019.

(Question put and agreed to)

Honourable members, there being no other business; I adjourn this House till Tuesday 14th March, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

(House adjourns)