

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

TUESDAY 11TH APRIL, 2023

Afternoon Sitting

3rd County Assembly

2nd Session

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COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

HANSARD OFFICIAL REPORT

TUESDAY 11TH APRIL, 2023

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRAYER

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, I have the following communication to make.

1. VISITORS FROM FRIENDS KIMILILI SECONDARY SCHOOL

Looking at our public gallery, we have students from Kimilili Friends Girls Secondary School who have come to this Assembly on an academic tour to learn about history and government; and equally they would like to have the students learn about the Assembly, *Sajili ya bungeni* (parliament registry) are the words used in the letter. They are 76 students. Kindly be upstanding.

(Students rise)

You can now be sited.

(Students resume their seats)

(Applause)

They are accompanied by teachers;

1. Mrs. Muchabe Caroline
2. Mrs. Robai Lusweti
3. Mr. Leonard Recha

Kindly you can resume your seats. As a practice, Honourable Members at an appropriate hour during our statement hour, I will allow Honourable Members to make brief remarks to the visitors.

Honourable Members, you can take up your seats.

We go to the next item.

PAPER

1. REPORT BY BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE COUNTY MEDIUM TERM DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024 TO 2025/2026

Hon. Jack Wambulwa (*Chairperson, Budget Committee*): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to table the report by the Budget and Appropriations Committee on the County Mid-term Debt Management Strategy Paper for Financial year 2023/24 to 2025/26.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, a report by the Budget and Appropriation Committee on the County Medium Term Debt Management Strategy Paper for Financial year 2023/24 to 2025/26 is hereby tabled and formally becomes the property of the House.

NOTICE OF MOTION

- REPORT BY BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE COUNTY MEDIUM TERM DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/24 TO 2025/26

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I hereby wish to give a notice of motion by the Budget and Appropriations Committee report on the County Medium Term Debt Management Strategy Paper for the financial year 2023/24 up to 2025/26.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Jack, Honourable Members, a notice of motion having been dully issued by the Budget and Appropriations Committee on the County Medium Term Debt Management Strategy Paper for financial year 2023/24 and 2024/25, I hereby direct the Table Clerks to share the report with Honourable Members. It is going to form business on our Order Paper in the course of this week as a motion accordingly.

STATEMENTS

1. RESPONSE FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR ROADS, TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS TO A STATEMENT SOUGHT BY HON. JACK WAMBULWA IN RESPECT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CEF ROAD PROJECTS IN KIMAETI WARD IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019/20, 2020/21 AND 2021/22

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Jack, do you have a copy of your statement?

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I don't have a copy of my statement because the CEC Roads just reached out to me this afternoon telling me he wanted to give a comprehensive report because he was just on the site of the projects that I had mentioned and he was finalizing. He requested if you can give him tomorrow afternoon to be here.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, a request is made but we intend to be having such responses on Tuesdays afternoons, and I am equally aware that there was a failure from the

office of the Clerk. There was no formal invitation for the CEC to appear; he wrote the response which is here but this session is meant for them to appear before this House and respond to the whole House. So Hon. Jack, I will grant your request but it will be scheduled next week on Tuesday for you to have a response so that it is heard among Honourable Members. We will have a similar session like the one for last week. So, response for statement (1) and (2) are taken to Tuesday next week at 2:30 p.m.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Much obliged Hon. Speaker

Mr. Speaker: In the meantime, you formally invite the CEC and not summon him. Invite him with this specific statement so that we have the response in advance.

2. RESPONSE FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND ICT TO A STATEMENT SOUGHT BY HON. ANTHONY LUSENAKA IN RELATION TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF WARD OFFICES IN BUKEMBE WEST WARD

Hon. Caleb Wanjala: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would wish that the member gives us a week.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, this is a response not a statement. We expect you to say that it is here with us.

Hon. Caleb Wanjala: I seek for more time Mr. Speaker Sir.

Hon. Anthony Lusenaka: Thank you Hon. Speaker. What I know is that the CEC was supposed to come here, I was not supposed to get a response from the Committee as per your direction last week and so I don't know why the Vice Chair of Public Administration is saying that he is supposed to give me a response. Is he the CEC? Because I am waiting for a response from the CEC. He is supposed to come here, the same thing we did last week and I think he promised to come, so I am waiting for him.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, I also have to agree with Hon. Lusenaka but I think the failure goes back to the Office of the Clerk; there is no evidence of invitation to the CEC before this House. Even if you heard him say that he will come next week, it is not sufficient. They must formally send an invite in writing to him to come here with the specific responses to the statement sought. Once again, the Table Clerks let's have those invitations signed by tomorrow morning plus the statement being sought, so that we have the response by next week on Tuesday.

The CEC must physically appear before this House, not through proxies but in person. Just as last week, the CEC must come and answer your question from here, that is in our new Standing Orders and we won't be changing anything towards that. They must physically come before you because they are your employees. So Hon. Caleb, we indulge you but for this one, the CEC is going to come in person next week Tuesday at 2: 30 p.m. Invitations should be done right away today.

Members, the next item is remarks from Honorable Members about our visitors in the public gallery. I think I have heard this school is called Kimilili Friends Girls Secondary School, I was trying to locate it, but it must be coming from where an elderly man comes from...

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance to talk about my school. This is Kimilili Friends Girls...

Mr. Speaker: It is a school from your Ward and not your school!

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: My Ward means mine Mr. Speaker.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, I come from Kibingei and they also come from Kibingei and that is the reason I am using the term mine where I belong. Mr. Speaker, I only have two girls' schools; Kimilili FYM being one of them. It was started eight years ago by Hon. Suleiman Murunga. This is a form four class and they have come out to learn from us. They have come to see what their *Mhemishimiwa* (Honorable Member) does when he says he is going to Bungoma. Where does he sit, can he even talk or he cannot talk. I have been with them and I have talked to them... they are form fours who are preparing for their exams. I have encouraged them and since it is a girls' school, they have their eyes and they can see ladies around this place. In this House, we have ladies who went to school; and that is why they are taking up these positions. I urge you to take your studies seriously in order to achieve your dreams of whoever you want to be in future; whether a doctor, teacher or any profession that you may think of. Therefore, I welcome you here in this House to see what we usually do.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to welcome our visitors; that is Kimilili Girls Secondary School to this County Assembly. We are proud of you girls to be here. As *Mheshimiwa* Mulongo says, the school is in his Ward but majority of the students are from my Ward. Therefore, I am proud of you too and we encourage you to work extra hard and to be self-disciplined. As you can see almost half of the House comprises of ladies and that means that we are working hard and fighting so much to bring women leadership on the platform. We want you also to strive hard so that this House does not remain empty in the coming years. We want to see more ladies in politics and other good jobs so that women can remain uplifted.

Otherwise, I want to take this opportunity to wish you all the best as you prepare to do your exams at the end of the year.

(Applause)

Hon. Ali Machani: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me the opportunity. I would like to add my voice on what Hon. Mulongo had said about Kimilili Friends Girls School which is one of the upcoming schools within our County and they need support from local leaders. As others have said, education is the only equalizer between the rich and poor and other cadres within the society. We want to thank them through their parents for electing Hon. Mulongo to be in this House from Kibengei. I have been in this House but since the Hon. Mulongo came in from that area, he has really proven that Kibengei has leadership qualities. I can remember that he really struggled from 2000 to be an elected leader and after 20 years, God remembered him and he is now serving his second term. Whenever he is in this House, he will always talk about Kibengei. He has a serious National School in western region that is Kamusinga Boys. There is also Kamusinga Girls where my daughter is a candidate. Whenever I go there I will always see him as one of the serious leaders in this county.

I want to thank the students for visiting this institution. When we were young at their age and you wanted to see any legislative House, parents were forced to pay a lot of money for us to visit the National Assembly. Through devolution, you can now follow legislation matters at the county level. We thank them and when they go back home, let them take our regards to their parents for voting in Hon. Mulongo for the second time to come and serve. I know he is a good leader who is ready to serve and I am sure he will facilitate them in terms of bursaries which he has been doing.

Also to appreciate the efforts of teachers for struggling through this difficult economic times and remaining committed to serve the new generation. We have never bought Unga at Kshs. 220...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Machani, stick to the agenda.

Hon. Ali Machani: I am stressing on a point and there is one leader in this House that I am trying to tickle him to hear what I am saying. I am saying that our children should take it as a right; while in school they should work hard because life is so difficult. When you see your parents struggling to pay your school fees, they should reciprocate by working hard and avoid engaging in dubious activities like strikes and burning of schools. Don't abuse your parents because they have made you who you are; give them respect. Do the same to your teachers and never talk badly about your teachers when at home since they are molding you to be good leaders.

Those who are sited here, it is through elections that they manage to be here and they are vetted in respect of how supportive they have been to the society. You can only do that if you fear God and respect your elders and those in leadership. Once you do that you will become a good citizen who will serve people. We pray for you that when exams come, God should open ways for you

to pass and that is the only reward you will give back to your elected leader Hon. Mulongo and others in the system in terms of serving society.

(Applause)

Hon. James Mukhongo: Thank you Hon. Speaker for the opportunity. First, let me also join my colleagues in welcoming the school before this House of debate. There is something that has been left out by the first speakers; as you sit in the gallery our beloved students, you look around and there is a sitting arrangement where I think you were taken through by our Sergeant-at-arms. I want to emphasize and it should never happen again to our brother Mulongo who is my follower. I am the first born and he is my follower. He is sitting on the opposition side while I am sitting on the government side. This is the boundary and you can read for yourselves. The people from the government side are committed.

(Applause)

The seats are almost full! But when you look at the opposition side, you can learn something. They have come here to learn and I am giving them something to go home with. You can see what my senior who has just spoken before me has said, that life is so difficult, which all of us agree. When you start preparing for a journey, you start now when you are still young. Your parents have taken you to school, utilize this opportunity. We are pleading with you girls, please; the future is bright for those who are disciplined. If you are not disciplined everything will go astray. Even in the politics of Kenya now, you can see people crying now and then to take over the leadership of this country and for over 20 years have not managed.

The economic situation we are going through now is because of poor planning some years ago. We are trying and as you sit here please learn something and when you go back home concentrate on your studies and nothing. Your parents at this moment are not even having a cup of tea in the morning in many homes; or they will just have one meal a day because of you. My girls please utilize your time properly. You can see my sister here seated on the opposite side, look at her hair...

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Member, you are out of order...

Hon. James Mukhongo: This is a CBC...

Mr. Speaker: It is not applicable here

(Laughter)

Hon. James Mukhongo: So the future is very bright for you. To our teachers we plead and say it is a calling to be a teacher and that is why I am a politician because it is a calling from God. On

your side, your profession is being a teacher. Please when you are at school; handle our kids like your children. By so doing, we will have good results from most of our schools. Schools are being burned every now and then. I have a certain school in my Ward that is St. Stephen Sikusi. We have had strikes now on then and it is not our wish or the students' wishes. It is also because of the Education Department.

In January, we had a Principal, February another Principal; in March another Principal... look at that! We are also contributing towards the burning of schools and I don't wish for this to happen elsewhere members. So we need to be very tough and have consultations with all the stakeholders so that we can uplift our education standards in the County.

We have had so many challenges in the Department of Education within the County Government of Bungoma; scholarships and even bursaries that the Honourable Members who are seated here have an allocation of some 4 million shillings in every Ward towards Bursaries. Of the students seated here, maybe some are from my Ward. We have not received these funds, but we are praying that very soon as we receive, I think we will do the necessary; even the scholarship issue, we sat here with the Governor and we are correcting the situation that was made by the former regime. But we have a task because I am speaking as a member of the government of the day. We are making sure that there is no child in Bungoma who will be sent home because of not paying scholarship or normal bursaries

(Applause)

Hon. Balala you should be applauding me because...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Barasa...

Hon. James Mukhongo: I want to finalize by saying to Hon. Mulongo that thank you very much. I will support you after this... I will be just around. I don't want to mention it but sometimes it is good, sometimes it's not. But he is an Honourable Member whom I respect so much. I rest my case

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Sometimes it is very hard to speak after those words by *Mheshimiwa* Mukhongo. Sometimes he goes very far and he has really advised our guests in the gallery. But having been in this county and having walked around the county and at times when I go to Kimilili, this is a school I see when I am passing on the road and when you see the outlook of the school, it shows that the school has very good girls and the management is good as well. I take this opportunity first to thank the teachers for putting that school the way it looks when I pass by.

I wish to say that in Bungoma County, we have very few girls' schools which have the image that our girls have. I am saying so because you may realize that it is the only school we are having and we are really singing about it. It is Lugulu, but we read things that are happening in terms of performance and we see our girls from Kimilili girls amongst the top performers in this County. I want to urge the management or the teachers who have accompanied the school or the girls that they put in more effort; and as *Mheshimiwa* Mukhongo has said, the County Government of Bungoma has been having very good programmes for our children especially the students in high schools, but because something happened and I think the government is trying to rectify and which I want to applaud *Mheshimiwa* Mulongo.

He has not mentioned that most emphasis is going to be put in schools like the one we are having today and since Hon. Barasa has mentioned, I want to urge that when you are putting up the programmes for Kibingei Ward, I am sure Hon. Mulongo, you are to put in mind that Kimilili Girls' is at the top because of the good looking girls that are here today and the teachers who are here today. So that Kimilili Girls should also start competing Lugulu Girls.

As it has been mentioned, when I was in secondary school, even at primary school, we were having a debate and this debate was between the government and the opposition. Those who are for and those who are against; and as our girls are seated here today wanting to know how this House is run, they can just see starting from yourself as a Speaker where you are the head of this institution, if from the gallery they can identify, we have the Deputy Speaker who is Hon. Wamalwa, we have the Honourable Leader of Majority on your right and we have the Deputy Leader of Majority on your right. So as *Mheshimiwa* Mukhongo was saying, this is something that we were doing and on your left, we are having those who are not for the government.

So the students when they go to write a report, they must know that the House here sited today has two sides of debate; those who are for and those who are against. But in this House, it is different that all members who are elected including Hon. Mulongo whom *Mheshimiwa* Barasa has indicated that he comes from the opposition. It is for legislative purposes here. So *Mheshimiwa* Mulongo, feel free though you are on the opposite side of the government in this House. But you belong to the legislative House which the students must know that Hon. Mukhongo's purpose here in this House is for legislation as it cuts across the entire County. He can talk of something that affects Bumula, Tongaren and Mt.Elgon.

So as much as we want to say that we are two students, we must know that all of us are here for the entire County and the students must know that you are the head in this House. Otherwise I wish the girls the best, the candidates we are hoping this year they will compete with Lugulu and Kenya High School. I rest my case.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Meshack... Members from our Order Paper, there is no motion after his debate so we can go up to 1:00 a.m.

Hon. Meshack Museveni: Asante Mheshimiwa Spika kwa kunipa nafasi niongee na wasichana wa *Kimilili Girls* ambao pia ni watoto wa kutoka Mukuyuni *Ward* na pia wanasoma huko na wanasoma vizuri. Mwaka uliopita walipita vizuri na ninaomba walimu kwa sababu wako hapa waweke bidii. Pia ningependa niambie wanafunzi ya kwamba, mimi mzazi wangu hakuwa na karo, nilipiga tabu lakini pia nina mwalimu wangu hapo. Yeye ndiye aliyenisaidia ndio nikafanya *form four* (kidato cha nne) mwaka wa 2016.

(*Applause*)

Mheshimiwa Spika angalia umri wangu na vile Mwalimu alinisaidia nikafanya *form four* lakini shida ni moja... Hesabu!

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Meshack, let me not allow that on HANSARD because I know where you are heading to.

(*Laughter*)

Hon. Meshack Museveni: Asante Mheshimiwa Spika. Naomba niwaambie wanafunzi ya kwamba wasome kwa nguvu kwa sababu masomo ni ya maana. Leo hii niko hapa kwa sababu nilisoma na nataka niambie wasichana wasome kwa nguvu... hapa mbele ni kugumu! Usiposoma vizuri na upite ni shauri yako. Unajua mzazi anajaribu kulipa *school fees* (ada ya shule) lakini wewe mwenyewe huweki bidii na mwalimu anasema tia bidii upite ili kesho pia uwe kama mimi hapa hivi. Ninaomba Mheshimiwa Mulongo mimi pia niko na watoto wanasoma katika hiyo shule; mimi pia huwa nawapa *bursary* (msaada wa ada) na ninawaomba walimu mkirudi muwaweke hawa woto wasome kwa nguvu ili watakapopita pia wewe utashukuru.

Mr. Speaker: Thank Hon. Meshack. I will have Hon. Opwora, I am following the list here members so just be patient, you will speak. Hon. Violet, Hon. Chemion is online then the Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I just want to also welcome our girls from Kimilili Girls for visiting the Assembly of Bungoma and also congratulate Hon. Mulongo for being close to the school; and I am sure he is proud of the girls school by virtue that he only has two girls' schools.

I often try to advise our students that they are in school for a reason and a season and for this particular sister of ours, I also want to encourage you that first of all, and be proud of where you come from, be proud of your school. I happen to have schooled in the same Ward for Hon. Mukhongo and that is in Friends School Kamusinga. My dad happened to also school there. It is my hope that my son will also go to Friends School Kamusinga.

To our girls, I am saying so because right now you are in Kimilili Girls for a season; please do not indulge in destroying your school. Do not be involved in burning the dormitory or the dining hall because in few years to come, your daughter will be schooling in that very school and how will you feel when you go back and see a dormitory that you participated in burning down. Just know that you are in Kimilili Girls for a season; please utilize that time.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank our teachers who train our students well. Unfortunately every student you ask now wants to be a lawyer, doctor or an engineer. We are not training our students also to be practical in terms of who wants to be a farmer and a good example is Hon. Mulongo by virtue of him being my brother in law. I know he does a lot of farming. I wish to encourage our students to also look at that angle so that after you finish your university, you know that you can also generate money through agriculture.

It is not about white collar jobs only, it's about hands on jobs; because if you do agriculture, you will never fear that you will sleep hungry and if you feed the nation, you will never be broke. Every day people need food, somewhere to sleep, agricultural products and raw material for processing of other products.

I want to encourage you that please do not look at white collar jobs alone, also look at the alternative market and even abroad, people who do these blue collar jobs earn more than people who do white collar jobs. Let us expand our minds so that we can encourage our students that in future when we are looking for jobs, we need to look at something that we have passion for.

As I conclude, I want to urge our teachers also to continue bringing more students here. It is a good environment for them to learn out of their normal classrooms and one last word; Abraham Lincoln said; if I am given eight hours to cut a tree I will use six hours to sharpen my *panga* (axe) and so I am encouraging my students that when you have an exam please take time to prepare for that exam so that within those two hours, things will be a walkover for you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Chemion!

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you Hon. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Violet, I think his request came earlier than yours so I am following that line!

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you. I am very sure Hon. Speaker your gadget is automatic and very accurate that is why... I was even asking why is it that you are being called before me and I pressed earlier...

Mr. Speaker: I have seen from the request. I will give them all a chance to speak. Do not worry about it.

Hon. Francis Chemion: Mr. Speaker, we want to thank the school that is here and we acknowledge that they gave us a very strong representative. Other than Hon. Mulongo being that aged in terms of years, he is serving the people of Kibingei with a lot of vigor. He is always very active in this House on both sides of the coin and he represents the issues and interests of the people of Kibingei in a very good way. For the learners, they must get to know that being in school has an obligation. They are there and the parents expect good results from them.

We are in the 21st century and if you look at the skills that are required in the 21st century, the technical and survival skills because we have to survive as human beings. We must help our students to acquire knowledge, skills and change their attitude towards the 21st century skills. The computer era, the nuclear era and all the innovations as a society and country that has curriculum developers. Our curriculum should help our learners and that is why we have the CBC; though we are saying it is very difficult, but it's addressing those issues of the 21st century.

I know in our homes those of us who have these students, who are learning CBC, we are answering very many questions every day. Some of us are also learning through the questions and the research that we do for the learners who come with homework given by their teachers. For the students, any student that has bad behavior, even if you score an A, you will not be of any importance to this society.

We have seen students who scored As, they went to the universities with bad manners but they perished. So the first thing for you to succeed in life is you must be well mannered. That should be the first thing that you inculcate in yourself as a student so that you do well in terms of academics and you are also well structured in terms of your discipline and character. Other than having good grades, you can even get employment and within no time, you will be dismissed because of your character.

In our schools, we have a challenge of drug abuse and it is happening in both the boys and girls schools and when teachers are talking about it, sometimes students think their teachers are very harsh, no! That is not the case; they are helping them to guide their future. If you indulge yourself in drug abuse right now, you will not last even in school. You may not even complete your education because of drugs.

I have seen students who have indulged in drugs and most of them have not completed their studies. They were very clever but because of drug abuse, they have ended up being zombies in our regions. So students beware that drug abuse is a very bad thing that you should not indulge yourself in.

As I conclude, we ask the teaching fraternity, one of our Honourable Members has said it is a calling, but I want to put it the way teachers put it, it is a noble profession. One of the very noble professions is being a teacher and I want to urge our teachers to continue working very hard. I

know the hardest job on earth is teaching; having practiced it for 21 years as you see me here. I know what these teachers are going through in ensuring that these students perform.

They have pressure both by the school administration, from the students, parents and other stakeholders to ensure that students pass with limited resources and any other resource that is required; it is just a noble profession. I want to urge them to continue performing their duties because they have what it takes to do so.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Stephen Wamalwa, our Deputy Speaker?

Hon. Stephen Wamalwa: Asante Mheshimiwa Spika wetu kwa kunipa fursa hii nikaweze kuchangia neno moja ama mawili kutokana na kutembelewa na shule yetu nzuri ya wasichana ya Kimilili.

Nataka nichukue nafasi hii kutoa kongole zangu kwa usimamizi mzima wa shule kwa kuchagua kuja hapa bungeni ili kuweza kujifundisha neno moja ama mawili na nimetaka niongee lugha ya Kiswahili kwa sababu wenzangu wote wametumia lugha ya kimombo ili wanafunzi hawa wasichana; najua kwamba katika masomo yao wanaotahiniwa kati ya masomo hayo ni lugha ya Kiswahili na ambayo sisi kama waafrika ni ima fa ima tujivunie kwamba ni lugha yetu ya taifa.

Kwa hivyo nataka nichukue nafasi hii kwa unyenyekevu sana kukaribisha kwa kusema kwamba wasichana wetu, mabinti mabinati karibuni sana katika jumba hili la majadiliano ambalo kwalo sheria hutungwa, mijadala mizuri mizuri huendelezwa hapa ikiwemo utayarishaji wa bajeti ili Kaunti yetu ikaweze kuenda mbele.

Vili vile, nataka nichukue nafasi hii niseme kwamba nataka niwashukuru hamani walimu pamoja na hababi walimu kuwaongoza wanafunzi hawa kufika hapa. Najua kwamba mkiwa kidato cha nne mabinati wetu wamekuja tu kuona jinsi gani haswa wale ambao wanafanya somo la historia na serikali ya kwamba mkija hapa mtaweza kujua jinsi gani bunge la Kaunti huendeshwa. Nataka niseme ukitoka hapa wewe ambaye umefika hapa umekuwa na bahati, ukirudi kule, jaribu kuendeleza lile ambalo ulisoma hapa kwa faida ya yule mwanafunzi mwingine ambaye hakueza kupata nafasi ya kufika hapa ili kuweza kusoma.

La msingi nataka niseme kwamba mmekuja hapa kujifahamisha na mko pale shuleni kwa msimu fupi sana, na msimu mfupi ambao uko nao pale shuleni binafsi ujiulize utazaa matunda yapi kwa sababu ukiwa pale shuleni najua kwamba kuna mambo mengi yanayoendelea. Kwa wakati huu kuna mambo ibuka ambayo yamekuja ikiwemo ukasumba wa hali ambayo ni ya mienendo na mila mvyenge ambayo imeletwa na mataifa ya nje.

Tunajua ya kwamba kuna mambo ambayo si mila na desturi za kiafrika ikiwemo, kwa mfano hawa ni mabinti wetu... mambo ya usagaji! Mkiwa kule shuleni mnaona kwamba mischana mrembo mzuri jaja wa jala jalia alikujalia umbo zuri baada ya kushuka ndipo alikuumba wewe ukarembeka sawasawa. Wewe unajifanya umekuwa ndume eti wewe unamtongoza msichana

mwenzako. Hiyo unatuelekeza katika mambo ya usagaji. Nataka kusema kwamba wasichana wetu ambao mumefika hapa siku ya leo, hayo ni maadili ya kishetani. Ni mambo ambayo wazazi wenu hawakuwapeleka kule shuleni kujiingiza kwa sababu huo ni mwenendo mbaya.

Nataka niombe mkiwa kule shuleni Kimili... mimi binafsi nilisoma shule jirani ya upili ambayo mheshimiwa amesema. Yeye alikuwa nyuma yangu pale katika shule ya upili ya Kamusinga. Nataka niwaambie wasichana kwamba ukiwa pale shuleni, jibidiishe wewe mwenyewe uwe nyota ya macheo, ung'ae na kung'ara kwa matayarisho ya gange ya skuli baada ya skuli utakapo toka shuleni. Hapo shuleni unapewa fedha, mavazi, njiti, soksi wavalishwa hata nguo ya ndani wapewa.

Nywele zako mzazi atoa pesa za kutengeneza. Utakapotoka shuleni utaona tofauti. Kwa hivyo ukiwa pale shuleni, jiulize baada ya mwaka huu, utakapotokanyaga nje ya lango la shule ya Kimilili ya Wasichana utakuwa nani? Utakuwa unaelekea wapi kwa sababu unapoendelezwa na hulka ya watu wanaokusukuma, msukumo wa wenzako, baadaye utakuwa pekee yako. Maisha yako yatakuwa vipi, aushi yako ya baadaye ni ipi?

Kwa hivyo nataka niombe kwamba hapa nje mambo ni magumu sana. Gange, mara nyingi tunasema kazi haipo. Usifikiri kwamba utakaposoma hata kama ni taaluma ya udaktari ama utabibu, kwamba mara utapotoka shuleni, chuo kikuu na baadaye utapata. Kitambo ilikuwa ikisemekana kwamba kabla utumwe shuleni kufundisha ukiwa kwenye chuo kikuu, kabla uondoke, seriekali inakutuma mahali kwenda kufundisha. Wanafunzi wa vyuo vikuu walikuwa wanapewa hela ama marupurupu kabla waondoke chuo kikuu. Siku hizi hamna. Utatoka shuleni ama chuo kikuu, ufike nyumbani ukanyage lami, vyatu vyako vijikunjamane kwa sababu hamna gange.

Fanya bidii, fanya hima ujitume kiasi cha mchwa, jeshi la mchwa wajengao kishuguu ili kwamba unapotoka shuleni uwe umejitoe katika umati na uko mbele ya wengine. Uwe baraka kwa wazazi wako. Unapokuwa shuleni jua kwamba mzazi wako amejinyima na amelipa karo yote kwa gharama. Si kwamba yeye anapesa chungu nzima lakini ni kwa sababu amejitoe mhanga ili kwamba wewe upate elimu na usimame katika pengo la jamii yako. Kwa hivyo nataka niombe kwamba mnapotoka hapa mkirudi shuleni mjiepushe na hulka potovu ya ukasumba wa malimbukeni wa mila ambazo si zetu.

Mtilie maanani masomo yenu na mkumbuke kwamba kuna mtaala mpya ambao umeletwa unaitwa CBC. Ninyi mko katika hali iliyo ya mwisho katika mtaala wa 8-4-4 aghalabu wakati mitaala inabadilishwa katika serikali, huwa na mambo ambayo hutokea haswa wale ambao ni wa mwisho kule. We ikiwa utalaza damu na uzembe, ole wako kwa kuwa itapatikana kwamba umejipata kwenye mataa. Bwana Spika singependa kusema sana, nataka kuchukua fursa hii kwa unyenyekevu kusema kwamba walimu na binti zetu, karibuni sana hapa Bungoma. Hili ni jumba letu la mijadala na tuko hapa ange kabisa kuchapa hiyo kazi.

Hon. Violet Makhanu: Thank you. Coming after my two seniors who can speak for over 30 minutes, sometime you can lack what to say but I want to summarize. I want to say something to our students. I am Honorable Violet the MCA representing a Ward called Mihuu in Webuye East.

I want to appreciate the teachers of this particular school because of the students for electing our good friend Hon. Mulongo and a few other leaders who come from Kimilili Constituency. Because I am sure it is not about Hon. Mulongo alone. We have Hon. Christine, Iddi and Hon. Obama from Kamukuywa.

I want to appreciate the fact that you elected them more so Hon. Mulongo who is a good friend of mine and the only honorable Member with white hair on his head.

Mr. Speaker: Are you suggesting that he is aging?

Hon. Violet Makhanu: He is very old in this Assembly but despite the fact that he is a bit old, he is a very good representative and a good debater in this particular House and we really respect him. As you go back to Kimilili, just know that we respect him and he is a good friend to all of us in this particular Assembly. If you want to laugh, just look for him and you will laugh.

I also want to encourage the students who have visited us that as you look around this Assembly, you can see very beautiful women in this Assembly. These women including me, were at some point like you. We were in your position and we passed through all the stages you are passing through in life and at the end of the day, we are here.

When you listen to most of us, we have history as women in this Assembly and if we talked to you about our History, you may decide to work harder even in Education that you are in at the moment.

We are here as elected Members of the County Assembly; seven of us, then we have our colleagues who are nominated and serving us very well. I want to encourage you that for you to be where we are, you must just work hard and ensure that you are doing the right thing and you understand what you do in that particular school called Kimilili.

Last time we had students in this House, I made a comment that made Honorable Members react in a very funny way and at some point, I was hurt because I was imagining we were not telling our students the right thing as leaders in this Assembly. I said that as ladies, it is high time that we get out this issue called Housewives. Yes! We have members who said that their wives are housewives, our mothers were housewives and yes, even we were house wives ourselves. As leaders, we do not want our kids to go towards that direction. It is just good to encourage them that being a house wife you will be a burden to that particular man who will be marrying you.

You will be dependent and once you depend on somebody, that respect is no longer there. Once you work hard and be in a position, there is a lot of respect starting from your own husband, your children, relatives and neighbors. We want you to be among those ladies in this world who are respected just because they are not depending on their husbands. They can even support their husbands to take care of their families.

I know majority our mothers were house wives and they led difficult lives. I know wives to our colleague MCAs here are housewives and majority of us were in that position; but I want to urge our girls that I don't want you to be in that position in the near future. I want you to work hard and admire these seats that the lady MCAs are sitting in this Assembly.

That one day you will be sitting here as a Honorable Member or you will be sitting on those nice desks where the Clerks of this Assembly are seated or at one time you will be sitting on the chair where our Speaker is seated so that you are called a senior person in this Assembly, Government or Kenya as a whole.

I want to urge our girls that for you to be in those positions, you must work hard. You must ensure that what you are doing is the right thing in those classrooms. You please your parents and the only way to please you parents is by working hard. When you work hard, you will make us proud as your leaders, you make your teachers proud and you will even make your siblings proud.

I want to encourage you good ladies, I heard a colleague calling you good ladies, smart ladies and beautiful ladies maybe, but for now, you are just there and you are our students. We are looking upon you to come after us. You are the future leaders to come after us. I am just encouraging you to put aside all other issues that are running in you minds. The issues of boyfriends and what have you. Good men are not yet born for you and that is what we were told.

Mr. Speaker: Now you are talking.

Hon. Violet Makhanu: Your good men are not yet born and they will be born maybe in the near future after you are somewhere and you are looking for the better ones. I want to encourage you that girls, work hard and I am speaking on this one because I am a mother of girls. I am a mother of three daughters and one son. Taking care of a girl child is not easy.

I'm looking at you Mr. Speaker because I know we are birds of a feather that you also have one son and several girls. It is not easy to bring up a girl child. So ladies don't make your parents get stressed. Do not cause early death to your parents because the moment you start messing around, your parents will develop stress and high blood pressure and at the end of the day you lose them. How do you feel to lose your parents just because of pressure caused by you as a girl? I want to encourage you that take good care of yourselves, respect yourselves and you will be respected in the near future.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Violet for such lovely words of encouragement. Hon. Sheilla you go.

Hon. Sheilla Sifuma: Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity. I just thought I should rise and encourage our girls from Kimilili. To just let them know that there are also young people in this Parliament and there are young girls like us. We were also there not so long ago and they can be whatever they want to be as long as they push hard. I think every member of the County Assembly who has risen has said something wise to you, something that you can use for your future; and I just want to encourage you and tell you it doesn't matter where you are coming from but where you are going is more important.

The future is unknown; it is for you to create it so don't focus on whether you are having a difficult time maybe getting to school or you are not having everything you need. Most of us have passed through that and we are here; and we are even going further. So, just to encourage you that it is possible. Just focus on whatever you are focusing on, on your studies; study hard, if you have a talent make sure you nurture it; don't just be an academic giant and you have talents that are sleeping on the side. This is just to encourage you to grow all round. This country as it is needs your expertise, we don't just need you to be doctors alone, we need other professions too that are maybe not conventional; so be open minded...

Mr. Speaker: Except night runners please.

(Laughter)

Hon. Sheilla Sifuma: I have never looked at it as a career Mr. Speaker I...

Mr. Speaker: It is a profession in Homabay.

Hon. Sheilla Sifuma: Yes, thank you. As I finish. I just want to encourage you, work hard, do your best make sure everytime you go home in the evening, or you are going back to your dormitories, ask yourself if you gave it your best and if you gave it your best, pat yourself on the back; tomorrow wake up early and do it again. I wish you well.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Sheilla. Hon. Metrine.

Hon. Metrine Nangalama: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance at least to say one or two words.

Mr. Speaker: Say three no problem.

Hon. Metrine Nangalama: Thank you Mr. Speaker once more. First, I would like to appreciate the teachers and students from Kimilili; you know it is not easy for them to be brought here. I remember very well I did Geography but I was not even taken to Mt. Elgon to see this mountain of ours. For this reason, I must appreciate our teachers.

Secondly, I would like to encourage these ladies. You may be here and you start thinking that these Honourable ladies that are here went to schools like Lugulu, Alliance and many other schools but as you can see, I went to a School called Lutacho in Ndivisi Ward. It was also a day school, but you can see I worked hard and smart and I am here. What I would like to say is just to encourage you that you work smart, respect your parents, respect your God and then respect your teachers. Life out there is not very easy. I just want to encourage you to keep on moving, there is nothing impossible before God.

I once again say thank you teachers for what you have done. Last but not least, ladies maybe there is something Hon. Violet has tried to touch on but she didn't come out very clearly...

Mr. Speaker: She came out very clearly. We all heard that.

Hon Metrine Nangalama: Thank you, Mr. Speaker but this is what I was saying; ladies you see where you are now, as you go home maybe or maybe as you walk outside there, we have men who will start lying to you. They will see maybe you are growing breasts; here we don't hide things we must be practical. They will want to spoil you but at the end of the day, they will just leave you there and run away. Some of us took time, we were very principled. Now that we are working, we have got our own money, you see men are very many until we are unable to select. So, if you work hard and get a job you will be free. For those few remarks I say thank you and you are welcomed once more.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Metrine for your observations. Hon. Florence, then I will have Hon. Alice closing that bit. Hon. Jeremiah, stop interfering with Hon. Nangalama. Proceed, Hon. Florence.

Hon. Florence Juma: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I know a lot has been said but I would just like to say one or two things to our students, our young girls who are also my daughters; I would like to encourage you and tell you that as girls it is not easy. You need to be committed, be respectful and above all, you must have a fighting spirit. This world with men out there is not easy.

I am not talking about the physical fighting but you must have a fighting spirit which enables you tackle this world that is very cruel. Gone are the days when the men would be soft, they would even give us positions and they would give us space; when they used to say ladies first, I no longer see where the ladies come first. The men will sometimes want to come first in everything; but I would also like to tell you that you must be focused; don't be a person who says whatever comes I will take. Channel or design your own destiny; just don't pick on anything that comes as early as now. Know what you want in life, fight for it and go for it. Some of us when we tell you our stories, where we have come from it has not been easy, but it is very possible. It needs a lot of commitment; it needs a lot of patience, but above all you must have a fighting spirit.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Florence. I will now have Hon. Alice closing those serious remarks in a fighting spirit.

Hon. Alice Kibaba: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for giving me this chance to talk to our girls. Girls, don't waste much of your time on your hair. Don't concentrate so much on your beauty, I have looked around and I have seen that most of you have short hair, congratulations.

(Applause)

Secondly, learn to share the little you have with your fellow students; maybe you have two birs and your fellow student has nothing please learn to share. Whether it is pocket money, a ruler or those things you know ladies who are here when you are having your monthly period, just share, learn to share.

I have been told this is a half day school and boarding school, when you are away especially those who are not boarders; when you are on your way going home and you meet a boy, I know those sides of Kimilili we have so many handsome boys and men, when they try to attract your attention, please don't pay any attention just ignore them. You can even go as far as abusing them or teasing them, just concentrate on your studies. I know good schools are in Kimilili, we have Kamusinga High School, I have my three sons who are in that school. We have Kimilili Boys; so, it is now you to turn Kimilili FYM to come up and be a star. That is all I have for my dear girls.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Alice. Honourable Members, on behalf of now the remaining Members who have not spoken, I want to wish all of them the best of luck in their KCSE at the end of the year. The Honourable Members have spoken so well and wisely and I think I have nothing to add. Today they had a field day to speak so much about education of the girl child and I think now the boy child is properly endangered. Thank you, we proceed.

Honourable members, looking at our Order Paper, there is no item under motions. That being the position, we will adjourn our sitting, resume tomorrow Wednesday 12th of April, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

(House Adjourns)