

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY
OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 28th September, 2016

The House met at 2.35 p.m.

[The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. R. Mutuku) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR
KINANGO MIXED DAY SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, I would like to recognize the presence of Kinango Mixed Day Secondary school at the gallery. You can appreciate them.

PAPERS LAID

BUDGETARY REQUEST BY COUNTY EDUCATION BOARD

Hon. Manyolo: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the following paper on the floor today, 28th September, 2016: the Education and Social Welfare committee report on the memorandum to the County Assembly by the Machakos County Education Board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Proceed.

BENCHMARKING BY DEVOLUTION COMMITTEE

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: **Hon.** Magdalene Ndawa, chairperson Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations? In the absence of the member, the paper is deferred.

(Member is absent)

NOTICE OF MOTION

BUDGETARY REQUEST BY COUNTY EDUCATION BOARD

Hon. Manyolo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to give notice of the following motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves the Education and social welfare committee report on the

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor, Machakos County Assembly.*

Memorandum to the County Assembly by the Machakos County Education Board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Notice issued. Proceed.

MOTION

BUDGETARY REQUEST BY COUNTY EDUCATION BOARD

Hon. Manyolo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, THAT aware that the Machakos County Education Board on the 12th July, 2016 presented their memorandum to the County Assembly of Machakos with which it informed the Assembly of the current downward trend of the education standards within the county; acknowledging THAT the board proposed areas of collaboration whereby the board, in conjunction with the committee on Education and Social Welfare, would endeavor to promote education in the county and further present the proposed budget of Kshs. 11, 741, 900; cognizant of the fact THAT deliberations were held between the education committee and the county education board and the committee observed that the education standards in the county were declining and THAT the county education board had presented very key proposal on how to improve the education standards.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to move the motion THAT this Hon. House discusses and approves the education and social welfare report on the memorandum to the County Assembly by the Machakos County Education Board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I call upon Hon. Peter Nzoka to second.

Hon. Nzoka: Mr. Speaker, I second the motion.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: The motion is properly before the House. Chairman, you can proceed with the report.

Hon. Manyolo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Education and Social Welfare Committee received a memorandum to the County Assembly of Machakos from the County Education Board on 12th July, 2016. Upon the committee's deliberations on the memorandum, critical issues were raised and thus the committee resolved to invite the members of the County Education Board to shed light on the memorandum.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Committee of Education and Social Welfare was established pursuant to the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders with specific mandate on to all matters related to pre-primary education, village polytechnics, home craft centers and childcare, children and social welfare.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the committee comprises of thirteen (13) members as follows: -

1. Hon. David Manyolo -Chairman
2. Hon. (Ms.) Phoebe Koki -V/ Chairperson
3. Hon. Charles Mutisya -Member
4. Hon. Benson Kasyoka ”
5. Hon. Oliver Nzeki ”

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 6. Hon. Renson Muthiani | ” |
| 7. Hon. (Ms.) Alice Nzioka | ” |
| 8. Hon. (Ms.) Veronica Mbithe | ” |
| 9. Hon. Collins Mbithi | ” |
| 10. Hon. Nzoka P. Munywoki | ” |
| 11. Hon. (Ms.) Anne Musyoki | ” |
| 12. Hon. Alexander Kathinzi | ” |
| 13. Hon. Joseph Muli | ” |

Appointed in 2013, by the Cabinet Secretary, Education, the Board is comprised a chairperson and twelve other members.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the committee noted that the overall mandate of the County Education Board is to plan, promote, develop (improve) and coordinate education, training and research in the County as well as ensure that barriers to the right quality education for all children are removed. The board is charged with the responsibility to ensure all children and youth of school going age within the County attend and stay in school to complete basic education.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the committee was informed that for the last four years, education in Machakos County has undergone a downward spiral as evidenced by the following tabulated data on performance in national examination.

Mr. Speaker, there is a paper which is missing in my report and I am requesting for the other one....There is a table on page four which shows the summary of performance from 2012 to 2015.

Mr. Speaker, if you go through the table clearly, you will see that by last year, Machakos County had only 12 As; seven from Machakos Boys, two from Machakos Girls and three from a private school in Athi River. If you look into the columns, you will see there are some wards which do not have an A or A-minus. For example, Masinga they have none, Kangundo the same. If you go back to 2014, we had 28 As, 2013 we had 18 As and 2012 we had 13 As. KCPE performances are tabulated in the reported. You can as well see how the schools had performed.

The implication in KCSE is that for the last four years, only 71 students scored A plain - the only distinct assurance of admission in top-notch courses like medicine, architecture and engineering. They portend a danger to the county in the sense that 10 years down, the county shall have no high calibre professionals to move the agenda. For KCPE, only three out of eight sub-counties were able to marshal the minimum 250 marks required for admission to secondary school.

In order to achieve their objectives and aspirations, the Board planned to undertake the following activities:-

- i. Develop a County Education Strategic Plan (2015-2020).
- ii. Undertake a County baseline survey on the causes of poor academic performance in the County.
- iii. In collaboration with the County government, organize and host a County Education Forum to bring together selected key stakeholders to discuss and strategize on ways to improve academic standards in the County.

- iv. Establish and cause to exist, a County Education improvement committee drawn from both county and national officials to steer the process of improving education standards in the county. A 10-member committee is proposed.
- v. Plan and hold County Education Days annually to celebrate, appreciate and reward the efforts, achievement and sacrifice of our learners, teachers and education managers in the County respectively.
- vi. Organize and implement mentorship programme for learners in our institutions through school visits and awards to motivate learners to high ambitions and targets.
- vii. Organize and mount induction workshops for the School Boards of Management across the County with the objective to strengthen effective school management and development.
- viii. Enhance school quality assurance and standards assessment by sponsoring a panel of assessors at least every year in every of the eight sub-counties.

In pursuit of the desire to carry out its constitutional mandate as well as achieve its aspirations, the County Education Board has been curtailed by the following obstacles or challenges:-

- i. Lack of inadequate funding by the National government - for about two years, the board operated on a zero budget until October, 2015. Lack of resources has been the greatest bottleneck to the board.
- ii. Weak and uncoordinated collaboration with the county government. There is need to work out a structured collaboration between the two levels of government for the benefit of Machakos child.
- iii. Lack of an appropriate boardroom from where to hold meetings and transact the board's business. Meetings have taken place in the CDE's office with lots of interruption.
- iv. Lack of intergovernmental meetings and consultations – County and County Education Board on matters education to chat way forward on areas of collaboration.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, during a breakfast meeting between the board and the County Assembly Education Committee held at Gelian hotel, the secretary to the board was tasked to generate a proposal on possible ways to collaborate with the County Assembly in matters education with the objective to improve the standards of education in the County.

1. Tests/Exams: it is proposed that the County government continue to provide tests and exams to our schools. The test to be administered under cluster of schools to be in tandem with government policy. It is the CEB's request that for purposes of collaboration two (2) members of CEB should be incorporated to a committee that will manage the tests.
2. Strategic Plan: for the County to invest resources towards improving education standards, it is prudent that these activities and programs are guided by a five-year strategic plan in its supplementary budget. CEB to submit a budget.
3. County Education Forum: this is a necessary event to jump start academic revival in the County. For 15 years, Machakos has witnessed a continuous decline in performance in national exams. A concerted effort of all stakeholders is needed to redress the scenario. Since the national government does not provide funds for such occasions, it is only

prudent that the County government supports by providing resources to have the forum. It is proposed that a County education improvement committee be established during the forum that will be in existence for at least six months.

4. Book/Equipment donation: the County government can contribute books or laboratory equipment or both to needy and newly established education institutions. The CEB can be tasked through its secretary (CDE) to identify the deserving institutions. A fund to be set aside every year for these items.
5. Award/Trophies and Gift Vouchers: In order to encourage competition and good performance among learners and schools, it is proposed the following category of schools and learners are considered and rewarded as follows:-
 - A.
 - Best overall public KCSE school – 250,000
 - Best overall public KCPE school – 150,000
 - Most improved KCSE School – 100,000
 - Most improved KCPE School – 100,000
 - B.
 - Best overall KCSE student – 150,000 gift voucher
 - Best girl KCSE student – 50,000 gift voucher
 - Best overall KCPE pupil- 4 years’ full scholarship (Form 1-4)
 - Best overall KCPE girls- 4 years’ scholarship (Form 1-4)
 - C.
 - -POYA (Principal of the year) = 100,000
 - -TOYA (Teacher of the year) = 50,000
6. Equipment for SNE Centers: The CEB recognizes the need to strengthen assessments and placement of children with special learning needs. Lack of equipment and resources has hindered assessment and this denies these children their basic right to education.
7. It is proposed that a fund be set aside by the county government to purchase basic assessment tools for all centres in the eight sub-counties. The EARC county officers will provide the budget.
8. Talent development centers: Talent development is now government policy. Every county is expected to set up such a center in order to encourage talent nurturing among the youth. A centrally positioned and school with a passion for sports and talent within Machakos County may be supported and allocated funds to develop and improve its facilities to the status of such a center. County government is requested to allocate funds for this noble idea.
9. Appointment of Boards of Management: The CEB has the responsibility to vet, approve and appoint members of the Boards of management for all public secondary and primary schools in the County. Mr. Speaker, Sir, when they were conducting this issue, in Kathiani, there is a certain area where they did not manage to get a form four person to be in the BOM - so you see we have that problem in Machakos County, that is why we need to improve education.

10. There are 342 public secondary and 862 public primary schools in the County. Adhoc vetting sittings to discuss boards takes about two (2) months for primary and one (1) month for secondary schools. It is requested that the County government supplements for a seating allowances in order to reduce the burden of levying parents to get funds for this exercise.
11. Pre-primary Education: Since most pre-primary centers are attached to a primary school, it is urged that the County government collaborates more closely with the CEB to enhance effective management of the centers and resources. Quality assurance and standards assessment should cover both pre-primary and primary schools concurrently. Appointments of BOMs and committees can also be done simultaneously. Purchase of textbooks, equipment and other facilities can also be produced jointly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you can see the details of the budget attached which the County Education Board had proposed to the Education committee and which is annexed below. The total budget is Kshs. 11,741,900

1. FIELD VISITS

S/No.	Item	Rate	Days	Quantity	Total
1	Stationery	300	4	17	20,400
2	Car Hire	15,000	4	2	120,000
3	Allowances	5,000	4	17	340,000
4	Report writing	2,000	2	17	68,000
	TOTAL				548,400

2. INDUCTION OF SUB-COUNTIES BOARDS

S/No.	Item	Rate	Days	Quantity	Total
1	Full board accommodation	2,500	8	17	340,000
2	Facilitation of resource	4,000	4	2	32,000
3	Transport for facilitators	2,000	2	2	8,000
4	Hall hire/Projectors/PA	15,000	8	8	960,000
5	Report writing retreat	3,000	4	5	60,000
6	Stationery	10,000			10,000
7	Report allowance	2,000	2	5	20,000
8	Return fare	1,000	2	5	10,000
	TOTAL				1,440,000

3. STRATEGIC PLANNING

S/No.	Item	Rate	Days	Quantity	Total
1	Full board	2,500	3	17	127,500
2	Allowances	5,000	3	17	255,000
3	Stationery	10,000			10,000
4	Photocopy	5,000			5,000
5	Transport hire	15,000	2		30,000
6	Consultants fee	20,000	3	1	60,000
	TOTAL				487,500

4. ANNUAL REPORT

S/No.	Item	Rate	Days	Quantity	Total
1	Full board accommodation	3,000	2	5	30,000
2	Report writing allowance	5,000	2	17	170,000
3	Return fare	1,000	2	17	34,000
4	Hall hire/Projectors/PA	15,000	2	1	30,000
	Total				264,000

5. COUNTY EDUCATION DAY

S/No.	Item	Rate	Days	Quantity	Total
1	Allowance for org. committee	5,000	10	50	2,500,000
2	Presents: teachers/schools	20,000		20	400,000
3	Feeding 2000 people	1,000		2,000	2,000,000
4	Refreshments	50	1	2,000	100,000
5	Awards for guests	5,000	1	50	250,000
6	Awards for Chief guest	30,000	1	1	30,000
7	Programs and cards	150	1	2,000	300,000
8	Tents and chairs	20,000	1	10	200,000
9	Stadia hire	100,000	1	1	100,000
10	Trophies	10,000	1	20	200,000
					6,080,000

6. COUNTY EDUCATION BOARD ALLOWANCE

S/No.	Item	Rate	Days	Quantity	Total
1	CEB Chair Honoraria	20,000			240,000
2	CEB Chair sitting allowance	10,000			60,000
3	Members Allowances	5,000			510,000
4	Sub Committees	5,000			540,000
	Total				1,350,000

QUALITY ASSURANCE BUDGET**ONE WEEK ASSESMENT IN EACH SUB COUNTY**

S/No.	Rate	Days	Quantity	Total	Terms	Grand Total
1	5,000	6	3	240,000	3	720,000

2	4,000	6	3	216,000	3	648,000
3	2,000			2,000	3	6,000
4	4,000	5	4	20,000	3	60,000
5	1,500	6	4	36,000	3	108,000
6	5,000			5,000	3	15,000
7	5,000			5,000	3	15,000
						1,572,000

SUMMARY

S/No.	Item	Amount
1	COUNTY EDUCATION BOARD ALLOWANCE/HONARARIA	1,350,000
2	QUALITY ASSURANCE	1,572,000
	GRAND TOTALS	11,741,900

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the committee made the following observations:-

1. That the County Education Board's proposed budget of Kshs. 11,741,900 was much inclined on the allowances of the members rather than the actual programs that would improve Education standards in the County.
2. The committee noted that the County's academic performance over the last four years has been dismay considering that schools that used to perform well are currently performing poorly.
3. That the County Education Board had presented good proposals and strategies that would actually improve the Education standards in the County.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, education is the key to success and much effort should be geared towards improving Education in Machakos County. The committee recommends the following:-

1. That a study should be conducted to ascertain the challenges that have contributed to the poor performance of schools in Machakos County.
2. That in order to promote education, the department of Education should fund 5 per cent of the budget of the County Education Board. Since this had not been factored in the 2016/2017 Appropriation Act, the department should come up with a supplementary budget to cater for this.
3. That the County Education Board has proposed good plans and strategies of improving Education in the County and thus the department of Education should adopt and implement them.
4. That since early childhood education is the foundation of learning, priority and more emphasis should be put on the construction and equipping of the ECD classes and employment of the ECD trainers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the committee noted that as much as the County Education Board was an entity mandated under the National government, it would be wise to fund 5 per cent of their proposed budget to promote education in our County. This budget is the one I am talking of the

Kshs. 11,741, 900. Further, the committee noted that the memorandum contained good solutions and proposals on how to improve education in the County.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is therefore my privilege on behalf of the Education and Social welfare committee to table this report on the memorandum by the County Education Board to this Hon. House for approval. Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, that is the report from Education and Social Welfare committee. Note that for any county to develop, education is a critical tool and again you should note that education for the primary and secondary schools is not devolved. But when I was looking at the memorandum of the county education board, it is only requesting whether there is a way the county government can collaborate. So guided by that, I hereby proceed to invite debate. Yes, Hon. Kathinzi.

Hon. Kathinzi: Mr. Speaker, I would like to start by congratulating my chairman, Hon. Manyolo and the members who we have been working together as a team in this committee of Education.

This is a very good report and this memorandum from our department came in to see whether we can come in and help in, maybe, do appropriation of the same so that we can support education of our own kids. I support it totally. However, I wanted us to contribute on some things, Mr. Speaker, to get more input from fellow members, probably on item number five where we have the best overall public KSCE whereby they are requesting for us to award Kshs. 250,000 and best overall public KCPE, Kshs. 150,000.

Mr. Speaker, it was my view that the department of education can come up with a guideline, because I am sure we are going to pass this report, to give that particular department a proposal on how to utilize this money. Remember that Kshs. 250,000 is public money. Even when we give as a reward, I think there should be a proposed way of how it will be utilized because we want to better education in our county.

When you go to 5 (b), I am a champion of the boy child. We have the best overall KCSE student, who is getting around Kshs. 150,000 which this is a gift voucher; the next one is the best girl. Mr. Speaker, I would like you to underline the word “the best girl.” Assuming the best KCSE student is a girl, then we also award the best KCSE girl, and on that category, Mr. Speaker, they have not provided for the best boy. I think it is also good for us to see a boy child and a girl child as all our children. We need to promote and see a way we can probably be able to adopt this report with a recommendation that we include the best KCPE and the best KCSE students who are our boys.

Mr. Speaker, Machakos county men are becoming extinct because of such problems. They have been sidelined; they have been undermined even when the government is trying to give some subsidies. I propose with your guideline, Mr. Speaker, because I know it is possible, that when we are considering our girls, we also consider promoting education in the boychild.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to put an emphasis of point (c) where we have the principal of the year, where they have requested us to consider giving Kshs. 100,000 which is their proposal and also the teacher of the year. I think we need a better clarification on what

category for the principal of the year: is it the best year performer or it is the national and county school? There needs to be clause 1, 2 and 3 because our schools are categorized so that we can promote our day schools where we have competition between the day schools and also the national schools within our county which have been able to perform and that carried the day.

So with the will of this House, because I believe we have the power, Mr. Speaker, I request that we do that particular inclusion so that we can promote the day schools, the county schools and national schools. Also for the teacher of the year, I think this goes to the teacher who has produced position number one with the highest mark; many As in that category. I think it is also good to highlight that.

We may not be able to adjust this report because it comes from that department but I believe it is an exemplary report, but including those categories, we will be able to ensure that our pupils from other sidelines and regions and we might also need to have minority recognition, for those students schooling within the county government of Machakos periphery but do not belong to the majority; maybe you have two or three Maasais schooling in Machakos School and they have done something, so that we can promote our schools outside the county.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to finalize with the amount of money which is required, around Kshs. 11 million, considering we have a big budget. I want to go the committee's recommendations, where it reads 'the county education board proposed budget of Kshs. 11, 741,900 was much inclined to the allowances of the members rather than the actual programs that would improve education standards in the county.'

Mr. Speaker, I belong to this committee. Even when we see a bigger budget has been inclined to the education board's proposal, we need to see whether we can do something, probably including the terms of our bursaries, the bursary kitty, the takeaway, giving moral support to the teachers and the students who are performing better. The best performing student, the most improved student in a particular school should be included somewhere so that we can invest heavily in this particular department.

My key point is that for this Assembly giving the Executive Kshs. 11 million to make sure that we implement this money to make sure these students can perform better, because a better future of our kids is a better for our county, Kshs. 11 million per year is peanuts; we need to support this. I beg this Assembly, we unanimously agree with one voice and when it needs for us to come up and do the supplementary budget tomorrow, it is possible to support this department. This is the time for us to ensure that education in Machakos County becomes number one throughout. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rest my case but I beg Hon. Members to support this. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Yes, Hon. Dominic Maitha.

Hon. Maitha: Mr. Speaker, I am acting on behalf of the Majority Whip. I want to make some reservations about this report; it is a good report but I believe it is time barred to some great extent in as much as they want to support the report. Mr. Speaker, we know very well before you start constructing a five storey house, you must start with the foundation. The foundation of quality education is the basic education which is ECDE.

As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, what has been devolved to the county governments, as the chairman said in his report, is ECDE. We just need take stock of what we have achieved as a county for the last four years in supporting the ECDE which is basic and main route to have quality education.

To date, we should be saying that every ward amongst the 40 wards has got close to eight ECDE centres fully equipped so that those kids can start with quality education then coming up we will be able to get those thousands and thousands of As and Bs that the chairman is talking about. But as at the moment, we are talking of stalled ECDE centres in every ward.

Mr. Speaker, how do we go ahead and then fund a national government function yet of the few functions that have been given to the county government which is the ECDE centres, we have done almost nothing. The first financial year we budgeted for two ECDE centres; how many have been done in every ward? The members know very well.

The second financial year, we financed the same; nothing has been done. The third financial year, up to date, you will find that in most wards, most of the ECDE centres have never kicked off. So, do you go ahead and fund the primary and secondary functions yet what has been given to us is not functional?

Mr. Speaker, I think in as much as the committee has a good will, we are misdirected. Protect me, Mr. Speaker, because the Majority Leader wants to preserve his government but you better listen to this. Mr. Speaker, I want to give an example: the Governor went and promised a classroom worth Kshs. 4 million in Kathiani Girls Secondary School. Today the Hon. Member for Kathiani is here; that class has never been fulfilled. Mr. Speaker, Sir---

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Let us have the point of order.

Majority Leader (Hon. Mwonga): Is it in order for a member, when contributing on a report which has been tabled by a chair, to derail from the report and start debating on other issues? Mr. Speaker, I think the same chair of education tabled a report last week or two weeks ago on the ECDE classes and status and it was dispensed by this Hon. House.

Mr. Speaker, I also wonder how the issue of His Excellency the Governor is being floated by the Hon. Member for Muthwani, who will never get satisfied at any moment, Mr. Speaker, and yet what we are discussing is about the request of the County Education Board but not the promises or pledges which have been made by the Governor. I wonder whether the Hon. Member is in order. Thank you.

Hon. Maitha: Thank you, Mr. Speaker---

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Order! Order Hon. Maitha. Wait for my directions. The point of order is sustained. Kindly let us dwell more on the report before us.

Hon. Maitha: Mr. Speaker, I have said, you cannot go and cut tree branches, plant them and expect a tree to grow. You must start from the basics, and there is a Kamba saying when

translated in English: when you meet with a stray dog on the road side and you hit it, definitely you will then know the owner.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say this, I was giving an example because the chairman is proposing we fund but I was giving an example of functions that have funded and they have not been met. I want to say inasmuch as the Majority Leader would want to support and substantiate, to date why we are not getting As in most of the schools? To date we have students who are at home, who have been denied bursaries by the same government that the Majority Leader is supporting. I was given Ksh. 1 million---

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Order Hon. Dominic Maitha.

Hon. Maitha: We must address the root cause inasmuch as we want to offer quality education and support. Yes, we will pass the money, but whatever we have passed to support those students, for example bursaries, have we implemented the same? ECD centres, have we implemented the same? Let us not be fake by just bringing reports. Actually, whatever the chairman is proposing for a supplementary budget, some of these chairpersons need to be versed with the current regulations from the national government as per the PFM Act, 2015. Mr. Speaker you cannot introduce a new vote in a supplementary budget.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: What is your point of order Hon. Manyolo?

Hon. Manyolo: Mr. Speaker, I am worried by the Hon. Member who says he is now the current Chief Whip. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of ECD centres was dispensed last week but one. In the report, I have not talked of a supplementary budget. They have just given a proposal of how we can support them, but not a supplementary budget. How comes he is misleading the House that I have stated that we need a supplementary budget? The board has just requested---

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Manyolo. I would like to invite you to committee recommendations. Under bullet while you are talking of 'in order to promote education at the department of education, should fund five percent of the budget of the county education board. Since this had not been factored in the 2016/2017 Appropriation Act, the department should come up with a supplementary budget to cater for this.' Then I find you out of order; you can resume your seat. You can continue Hon. Dominic.

Hon. Maitha: Mr. Speaker, it is good that you are bringing in to understand that this report belongs to him. Mr. Speaker, I was saying this, even if we say we are going to pass a supplementary budget, according to the PFM Regulation Amendments, 2015, we cannot insert a new vote in a budget that has already been appropriated. If this was already in the existing budget, then we can come in and have a supplementary to support that ongoing project. So, it is inconsequential. Even if we put it as a recommendation, it cannot go through with the Controller of Budget, because it is not a function that was already in the budget that we have passed.

What I am saying is, inasmuch as we may want to support these children, we must first set a precedence of what we have already passed before. Is it giving us results? Are we getting value for what we have already appropriated for? Because if we are not supporting the ECD centres, to date, a quality ECD child to grow to the next level of becoming a better student in standard one up to form four, it is to have a quality and a well accustomed trained ECD teacher who can give that child the basic education but we have not employed the same, so even if we want to fund them, we still have a challenge.

Mr. Speaker, I support the report. What we need to understand is that we will fund this function but still we will not have addressed the problems as per the devolved functions. To me, inasmuch as I support the report, I would say let us support ECD education and after we support ECD education, we will be able to move to the next level. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Maitha, let us have the point of information from Hon. Joshua Mwonga.

Majority Leader (Hon. Mwonga): Thank you. For the benefit of those who are in the gallery, I am Hon. Joshua Mwonga, MCA Masinga Central and the Leader of Majority. Mr. Speaker, my point of information is that, the member who was contributing has already spent more than five minutes and the Standing Orders are very clear; ‘when a member is contributing, Mr. Speaker---

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Mwonga, are you standing on a point of order?

Majority Leader (Hon. Mwonga): Mr. Speaker, it was on a point of information.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Are you informing the Chair or the member?

Majority Leader (Hon. Mwonga): I am just letting the Chair know. I am not informing him, Mr. Speaker. And it is in order when a member’s five minutes are over, it is in order for another member to inform the Chair. I am not out of order, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Joshua Mwonga, the point of order is objected. The Chair has all the powers to control the debate and I am giving the member time to contribute. He is putting a very crucial matter before this House. Before you proceed, Hon. Maitha, we can have the point of order from Hon. Kathinzi.

Hon. Kathinzi: Mine is a point of information. I would like to be very particular because when you go to the Order Paper, we are discussing a memorandum of the County Assembly by the County Education Board. Mr. Speaker, it is good for us to discuss that which is within the Order Paper because what Hon. Dominic is raising, we discussed and we debated on the floor of this House about the issues of ECD, the issue of bursaries which have been discussed here, but

this is a specific memorandum from a party that we need to dispense strictly within that particular line.

We do not dispute that we have problems with issues bursaries and ECDs. We have done our part; it is the work of the Governor to do the rest, so let us do what belongs to this particular moment and, Mr. Speaker, I think we shall be doing justice to this county.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Maitha, with that information, you can now be guided. Only one minute.

Hon. Maitha: I am guided and I want to say this: as I have said, the Majority Leader needs to understand that even when Hon. Kathinzi stood, he spoke more than 10 minutes and he was not concerned about that.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Proceed, Hon. Member.

Hon. Maitha: Thank you, and my Kamba proverb summarizes everything. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Speaker: Yes, Hon. Mutuku.

Hon. M. Mutuku: Mr. Speaker, first and foremost, let me applaud the chairperson, Hon. Manyolo for the report and the members of that particular committee. Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you are aware, the purpose of the board is for posterity for the future and as an educationist in this line, I would like to say the report is in line with the education policy and the best practices. The report has highlighted the areas which we need to collaborate with the County Education Board which represents the National government. I think it is the high time this Hon. House supports the report.

However, there is an area I thought is very important to be highlighted as part of areas of collaborations and that is bursaries, because we have bursaries which we get through the County Education Board, that is from the National government and we also have bursaries from the county.

We are all aware many bright students from the disadvantaged families are at home; students who can really help the economic development of this county, not because of their own making but because of the poor background. Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is an area which I think it was not factored in areas of collaboration and I wish to support this report with such an amendment.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the spirit of devolution was for each county to be self-governed; to take of care their destiny. We can only take care of our destiny through empowering the future generation and we can only do that through education.

Mr. Speaker, it is very important for this Hon. House to see how we can improve our collaboration with County Education Board which represents the government on the basis of the bursaries. With that Mr. Speaker, I wish to support the report. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Willy Mukewa, and as you contribute as the chairman of the Budget and Appropriation committee, there is a very critical issue that has been raised by Hon. Dominic Maitha concerning creating a vote on a supplementary budget. You can respond on that.

Hon. Kasimu: Mr. Speaker, on the report before the House today, memorandum to the County Assembly from Machakos Education Board, as a member of this Assembly, I do not support the report and I don't wish the House passes the same. One, because as the chairperson of budget, it is quite obvious that we do not have a budget set aside for the same. Secondly, although it is a good report from the chairperson, it is time-barred and three, education has not been devolved.

Mr. Speaker, you remember, most of the things that we have done to support the national government, a lot of people have raised issues that we should only work on the devolved units and departments. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is bad timing and it is also wrong for the government at this time to support the National government issues and we do not have a budget for the same. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mukewa, the chairman of Budget and Appropriation committee, there is a matter that the Chair asked you to respond to on creation of a new vote in the supplementary budget.

Hon. Kasimu: Mr. Speaker, I have just said that we do not have budget in this House therefore we cannot---

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Willy Mukewa.

Hon. Kasimu: We cannot create a vote of a department that we don't have a budget.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Yes, Hon. Alexander Kamitu.

Hon. Kamitu: Mr. Speaker, I stand here with a lot of experience, as I normally say, that this memorandum is of great help to Machakos County. I am standing here as a parent who has been involved in uplifting neighborhood education within my area and for that matter, I would, on a very sincere note, air my views that I really support this memorandum report. However, there are some issues, because I have gone through the paragraphs, it is a well-done assessment of recommendations but my addition would be, they should come out with the areas that have been having good performance.

As much as we would like to budget whatever has been put here, we should come up with some ways of how the other districts are doing because if we are going to budget, we should come up with a very good strategy of how we are going to improve the performance because we can sit down and budget the money as per the report but then the big question would be, what are the strategies? What are the best ways, as a county, we can come up with, so that even when we

are rewarding the primary schools, what are the best ways of also trying to engage our teachers in this regard? Because the question is, why is Makueni, for example, doing better in primary school education?

As much as we would like to talk about the way we are going to award our schools and our students, are the teachers sleeping? The committee should go out and do some assessment; where and why are we going wrong? So as much as I stand to support this memorandum, I am also worried as a parent. Why is Machakos doing badly in performance than Makueni? So my contribution in this regard, Mr. Speaker, the committee should also go out to the best performing schools.

As I said, I have gone through these paragraphs; you have done those assessments but then after those assessments, what are the best ways that we are supposed to make so that we also awaken our sleeping giants because when I am saying that, Machakos was once a giant in education performance but nowadays, what are we doing? That is my contribution. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, as we proceed, I would urge you to be guided that what is before us is just a memorandum. Secondly, education is not devolved; there are other functions which the committee cannot exercise. There are other stakeholders who are assigned those duties by the national government. Yes, what is your point of order, Hon. Mwonga?

Majority Leader (Hon. Mwonga): Mr. Speaker, we are discussing a very important document and I think the mood of the members, when we started debating this report, majority of the members were in, but now looking at the number of the members in this House, it is as if the members feel, it is my personal opinion, members feel that this report should be discussed when we have a majority of members because this is a very important document and touching on the lives of our pupils---

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Mwonga, are you standing on a point of order or point of information?

Majority Leader (Hon. Mwonga): Point of order, Mr. Speaker, and I want to say the House has no quorum.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Then I find you out of order. You are standing on a point of order or point of information?

Majority Leader (Hon. Mwonga): I wanted to inform the Chair that the House has no quorum.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Then the clerk can confirm as we proceed. Hon Oliver Munyaka.

Hon. Nzeki: Hon. Speaker, I am a member of this team, and according to what Majority Leader has said that there is no quorum, I can see that members who walked out are relieved with the report which was laid. I believe that what we are supposed to ask is, whether we are (*inaudible*) with the report and before you ask such a question, Mr. Speaker, Sir----

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Munyaka. You will allow me to interrupt you. You can resume your seat. I will give you the first priority. I am informed that we don't have quorum. I proceed to order the Serjeant-at-Arms to ring the bell for eight minutes.

(Quorum Bell rung)

The bell can stop.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, I am informed we have not attained quorum, therefore we cannot proceed with the business. The House stands adjourned until the next sitting.

The House rose at 3.41 p.m.