



Pipeline

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A BETTER FUTURE THROUGH UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION

Provincial Governments challenged to take the step to prioritize Education

Minister for Education, Honourable James Marape is calling on all Provincial Governments in the country to prioritise education in their annual operations.

Mr Marape made this call in Mt Hagen at the opening of the 171st National Education Board meeting, saying that the most important resource in the country is not oil, gas or gold but its human resource.

"I must acknowledge and thank the Governors of Morobe and Enga for taking the lead in prioritising education in their annual operations", he said.

He said Enga Governor Peter Ipatas, Morobe Governor Luther Wenge and NCD Governor Powes Parkop know the importance of human resource and have invested in education.

"Western Highlands Governor, Tom Olga, you have done the right thing to invest in education and human resource development", Mr. Marape said.

He said this after Mr. Olga announced an annual funding of K4 million to the Mt Hagen Polytechnic Institute.

Minister Marape said PNG is at a critical stage in its national development with major



From left to right: Western Highlands Governor Tom Olga, Education Minister James Marape, Dei Council Member, Puri Ruing and Western Highlands Provincial Education Advisor Joe Yaga. Behind the Minister is Acting Secretary for Education Dr. Joseph Pagelio and a WHP staff. Minister Marape cut the ribbon to signify the official announcement of the change of name for Mt Hagen Technical College to a Polytechnic Institute.

projects like the PNG LNG and Ramu Nickel set to boost development and the country's economy.

"I want the people of this country to at least have some form of education and skills training so we have the human

resource to cater for huge projects happening in the country".

"We want our people to work in our projects, so we must give them the right type of education and the only way to do this is to prioritise and invest in

education", Mr. Marape said.

The Minister said, that the money invested in provincial education and the priority given may not be enough but a start in any way is a positive contribution for the entire education sector.

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UPNG's Univentures Ltd donate TV to Education Department

The Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio has acknowledged the importance of partnerships with all stakeholders in the development of education when he was presented a 42 inch flat screen television by the Univentures Ltd, a business arm of the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG).

The presentation was made by the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Univentures Ltd, Mr. Camillus Narokobi on the 22nd of March.

During the brief presentation ceremony at the Department of Education headquarters in Waigani, Mr. Narokobi said that the University of Papua New Guinea is the highest learning institution in PNG and it is currently taking the lead in a number of areas.

He added that the Governing Council has made some bold decisions to assist the growth of the institution by, establishing the company, Univentures Ltd. four years ago.



Chairman of Univentures, Camillus Narokobi presenting the Unisave brand laptop to acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio.

The company operates and manages the UPNG printery, UPNG Press & Bookshop and is expanding its revenue generating capacity to support the University.

He also said that Univentures Ltd. is probably the first business in PNG to be involved in producing laptops, computers and television sets with its joint venture with an IT company from Korea.

The joint venture has started assembling television sets only and will start work on the laptops by the end of April.

The television sets are being donated to key organizations to have, a feel of the product before they are marketed.

Dr. Pagelio said that the donation marks the beginning of a new venture between the Department of Education and Univentures Ltd. "This is a privilege for me to receive this donation from Univentures Ltd. The Department values the important partnerships it has with its stakeholders including the Government," said the Acting Secretary for Education.

Dr. Pagelio added that through the different partnerships, the Department of Education was able to achieve a lot of its goals. "Through these partnerships we have implemented the education reforms, improved access to education, provided more training for the teachers and developed infrastructure in all levels of education," Dr Pagelio said.

He congratulated the Governing Council of UPNG for its vision in establishing Univentures Ltd and wished the company success in its operations.

Partnership is key factor to advance education

The Minister for Education, James Marape says partnership is a key factor in advancing the education sector in Papua New Guinea.

Mr. Marape made this call on Monday (28th of February), at the launch of the change of name of Mt. Hagen Technical School to a Polytechnic institute and the opening of the 171st National Education Board Meeting in Mt Hagen, Western Highlands Province.

"Partnership is the key to move education and the community must do its bit to look after school infrastructure. The local level and provincial government must also do their bit", Mr. Marape said.

He said communities around the country must not fold their hands and expect the government to bring better education to them.

"It is a two way thing, you do your bit and the government will do its bit, you can not fold your hands and wait, if you do, you will wait for a long time".

"We at the community level must do our bit so the government can come and do its bit to bring better education services to us", the Minister said.

He said the Education Department is not blind, and that what ever schools around the country do in terms of infrastructure development and security, the department will assist these schools.

Minister Marape said Mt. Hagen Technical School has served the people of Western Highlands and other highlands provinces for a long time and it is only fitting to upgrade it to a Polytechnic Institute.

Mr. Marape called on the community to take care of the old facilities and

also the new ones that will be built, so the standard and quality of the Polytechnic school is maintained.

"Western Highlands must be proud, because the Department of Education has chosen this highlands city to host the Polytechnic school which will serve Western Highlanders and the rest of the highlands region and Papua New Guinea", Mr. Marape said.

The local member for Dei Council, Puri Ruing announced an annual funding of K100, 000 to the Polytechnic Institute while Western Highlands Governor, Tom Olga announced an annual support of K4 million.

The staff of the school also presented the school's five year and 10 year plans to the Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio.

K130 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES

The Minister for Education Honourable, James Marape, MP is happy to announce that the Minister for Treasury and Finance Honourable, Peter O'Neill has signed a loan agreement with Exim Bank of China to an amount of US\$ 35 million which is equivalent to K130 million for the second phase of the development of Community Colleges in Papua New Guinea.

The loan will be repaid over 15 years at a rate of 2%. The funds will be used to

fund the second phase of development for 16 community colleges throughout Papua New Guinea.

The aim of the community colleges is to include the excluded men and women and boys and girls rejected by the formal system.

It provides a second chance for school leavers.

The Community College system aims to achieve the liberation and empowerment of the exploited and deprived

groups of society by releasing and developing the sources within, through middle skills development and facilitating self-actualization.

"I would like to thank the Honourable, Peter O'Neill for signing the agreement with Exim Bank of China. I also congratulate the good Government for this initiative and funding for the second phase of development of the community colleges," said Mr. Marape.

He added that this is part of the reform in the education sector undertaken to rationalize and improve the quality of training provided by the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector to ensure that students and the public at large can have access to in order to be self-reliant and successful in life.

He added further that the aims and objectives of the community colleges are very much in line with the PNG Vision 2050.

Under the PNG Vision 2050 the Government believes it can empower the people of this country with the right education and life skills and provide them with the opportunity to earn an honest living by running vocational centers in every district, establishing a Polytechnic school in each of the region and by establishing a Technical College in every province.

"I now call on all stakeholders to support the development of the community colleges in Papua New Guinea," Mr. Marape said.



Deputy Secretary—Policy & Corporate Services, Luke Taita (left) and Education Minister James Marape at the announcement of the loan from Exim Bank of China for Community Colleges in PNG.

PEAs reminded to fast track submission of RoDSS

The Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio has given a final reminder to all the Provincial Education Advisers to fast track the submission of their teachers' Resumption of Duty Summary Sheets (RoDSS) to the Payroll and Related Services Branch (PARS) at Waigani quickly.

Dr. Pagelio said to date, not all the provinces have sent in their teachers' RoDSS as expected.

The Acting Secretary said he reminded

the Provincial Education Offices in mid March to do a final check on all their teachers' RoDSS to ensure that the forms are signed and sent to PARS at Waigani.

He also said the dead-line for the RoDSS to reach PARS has been moved from Monday February 28, 2011 to Monday 7th March, 2011.

As these dates have now lapsed, he encouraged the Provincial Education Advisers to send the RoDSS with an officer to Waigani so that the RoDSS

are processed and data on all the teachers' resumption at various sectors are updated.

Dr. Pagelio stated that the RoDSS is the only form that would confirm who has resumed duty and who has not before automatic suspension is instituted.

Therefore, all advisers are reminded to ensure the RoDSS for those teachers who have resumed duty are forwarded to Waigani to avoid unnecessary suspension of genuine teachers.

NDoE & UNICEF sign 2011 work plan

The Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio and the Country Representative for UNICEF to Papua New Guinea, Dr. Bertrand Desmoulin signed the work plan for 2011 to kick start several activities that the United Nations (UN) will be supporting the Department of Education in implementing this year.

The activities that will be supported with funding from the UN include; Capacity Building and Awareness on Universal Basic Education, Child-Friendly Schools, Education in Emergency, Early Childhood, Inclusive Education and Non-Formal Education.

The plan lays strong emphasis to equity in education, especially the education of children with various forms of challenges. It is fully embedded on the DoE's own annual operational and financial plan (AOFPP), and will be implemented in collaboration with other stakeholders, including provincial governments.

UNICEF Country Representative, Dr. Bertrand Desmoulin reaffirmed the UN's support to the education sector. He said that UNICEF is happy with the partnership arrangements so far and looks forward to a stronger working relationship this year.

The Acting Secretary for Education,

Dr. Joseph Pagelio thanked UNICEF for the commitment it continues to give to the education sector in the past 10 years. He said that the universal basic education plan came about because of the leading role UNICEF played in getting the discussions and consultations started in 2006.

Dr. Pagelio also thanked UN agencies involved in education in PNG (UNICEF, UNESCO and UNFPA) for the critical support they are giving for awareness on the right for children to go to school and admitted that the Department needs to do more in this area.

He also acknowledged the support that UNICEF is giving to build the capacity of officers in various areas in education and was more than happy that UNICEF will be funding the training of 15 officers who have taken up an e-Learning course on 'Introduction to Education Statistics and Indicators' from February 28 to April 8, 2011.

This is a five-week e-learning course designed to help education decision-makers acquire or refresh an understanding of basic statistics in order that they may comfortably interpret information offered through education research, school/district reports, survey/opinion polls, and financial briefs in order to confidently make wise policy choices. Later, the participants will go through a second course on

'Economics of Education for Policy Makers Parts 1 and 2'.

This course helps education professionals make better use of economics tools when making complex decisions to improve quality, efficiency, equity, and sustainability of education systems. The courses are facilitated by the World Bank Institute in Washington, USA.

Dr. Pagelio said that the course was very timely and important for the Department of Education because of the need to have its officers trained well in order to analyse data for the different reports and also for the development of policies for the sector.

"We have the Education Management and Information Systems (EMIS) software however, our officers need more training on how to use this software efficiently in order to make sense of the data we have for the different targeted audiences," Dr. Pagelio said.

He added that the support from UNICEF will enable the Department of Education officers to understand and use basic statistical concepts and tools to confidently make wise policy choices to improve planning, and delivery of education services.

The Acting Secretary said he is pleased that the signing of the work plan has been done and work on implementing the activities can begin.

Minz High school upgraded to Secondary status

Minj High School in the Jiwaka region has been elevated to a secondary school, allowing it to take in Grade 11 students.

The National Education Board upgraded the status of Minj following an oral presentation made on behalf of the school by local MP Honourable, Jamie Maxtone-Graham, Jiwaka Transitional Authority (JTA) chairman, Mr. Phillip Kapal, Principal of Minj High School,

Mr. Paul Bangi and school board member Mr. William Gari in February, 2011.

Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio was impressed with the presentation and approved its elevation to a secondary school.

Dr. Pagelio made this known to the Western Highlands public at the launching of the National Education Board meeting at the Mt. Hagen Polytechnic Institute in

March.

He said those students who missed out on space to do Grade 11 can now have a second chance in completing their studies.

He reminded parents, guardians and the community not to brand student drop outs as failures.

The Acting Secretary said it was not their fault that they missed out on a space but the government's fault for

not providing enough space to cater for the large number of students coming out of Grades 8 and 10.

Jiwaka now has two secondary schools, the other being the Father Peter Secondary School.

Mr. Maxtone-Graham had committed K300, 000, from the district funds to build a new double storey dormitory.

Distance education MoU between UOG & FODE signed



Address by Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio

I must thank the organizers for giving me the opportunity to say a few words about this important occasion.

occasion.

The signing of the MoU between the University of Goroka (UOG) and the Department of Education, Teaching Service Commission and Flexible Open and Distance Education marks yet another important milestone for all of us as we continue to come up with innovative ways of bringing education and training closer to our students and teachers.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate the Dean for the School of Distance and Flexible Learning, Dr. Koro and your hard working staff in delivering the program to our teachers.

Signing of the MOU is one thing. I challenge all the parties in the MOU to work together for the common good of our teachers. When we do that, we will achieve the main purpose and outcomes of this MOU.

PARTNERSHIPS

I would like to talk about the importance of partnerships in the education sector.

Many of achievements would not have been possible without the partnerships we have with all our stakeholders.

The signing of this MOU will strengthen the existing partnership we have with the University of Goroka which is the largest teacher education institution and especially, the School of Distance and Flexible Learning.

It is only fitting that the theme for education this year is based on public private and church partnerships.

The Department of Education will work to strengthen existing partnerships and also go into new partnership arrangements with stakeholders for the common good of our students and teachers in the National Education System.

NDOE'S ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE MOU

As the head of the Department of Education which the Flexible Open and Distance Education system comes directly under, I would like to give my assurance of our support for this new program for our teachers.

The Department of Education is grateful to UOG for coming up with this new way for our teachers to study and upgrade their level of qualifications.

Many of our teachers find it difficult to leave school and go for studies because of many reasons for example, cost of studying and accommodation on campus, family reasons and the thought of losing their positions while

million from the Government of Papua New Guinea to rehabilitate the FODE provincial centres.

The goal of the project is to increase the capacity in the FODE centres so that an increased number of out-of-school youth can complete secondary level certificate and diploma programs.

The funding will improve the quality of FODE's programs and increase its capacity to expand its services.

These are some of the changes that are happening to the FODE system so that FODE becomes not only an attractive and affordable system but a



Provincial FODE officers attending a workshop before the signing of the MoU with the University of Goroka.

they are on study leave.

With this program, our teachers do not have to leave school or worry about family and positions. They can continue to teach in their schools and at the same time study to upgrade their levels.

Also with the use of the existing FODE network will lift the profile of FODE as an institution that also offers opportunities for tertiary education and training and help us to market FODE to the wider community.

The Minister for Education, Honourable. James Marape, MP recently signed a development project soft loan from the World Bank of K13.5 million to develop the FODE system.

The support to FODE by the World Bank has been complemented by K2.7

quality learning institution.

CONCLUSION

In concluding, I would like to assure the University of Goroka and especially the School of Distance and Flexible Learning of our commitment and support to ensure that this program helps our teachers in their training and development needs.

I thank the Vice Chancellor, Dr Onagi and your staff for the vision in making UOG the premier teacher education institution in Papua New Guinea and the South Pacific.

With these few words, I would like to end here by saying that another partnership has been strengthened and we are looking forward to working closely with UOG to implement this program.

Minister signs two World Bank projects for NDoE

The Minister for Education Honourable James Marape expressed his gratitude to the World Bank Country Director for Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands Mr. Ferid Belhaj for the assistance that the World Bank is giving to the education sector through two projects to assist with the reforms in education.

The two projects were among others signed at a brief ceremony at Lamana Hotel on Thursday, March 3.

The other projects included the Urban Youth Employment Project in NCD and supporting and strengthening the participation of women in Bougainville's development processes.

The two development projects for education are the READ PNG project which involves a grant agreement of about K51million (US\$ 19.2 million) and a soft loan of K13.5 million to support the Flexible Open and Distance Education (FODE).

The READ PNG project aims to improve reading skills in elementary and primary schools, and thereby increase literacy rates in PNG.

This investment is part of the Department of Education's (DoE) Universal Basic Education (UBE) Plan which was approved by the Government of Papua New Guinea in October, 2009.

The UBE sets out DoE's program for achieving full access to basic education as part of the Millennium Development Goals.

As part of the UBE Plan, READ PNG will provide support for 'classroom libraries' and other educational materials, as well as for teacher training related to reading. Improvements in reading will be evaluated through the use of early grade reading assessments to be conducted at the provincial level.

The funding for READ PNG project is provided by the Education for All –

Fast Track Initiative (FTI) which is a global multi-donor fund for education.

Meanwhile, the support to FODE by the World Bank has been complemented by K2.7 million from the Government of Papua New Guinea to rehabilitate the FODE provincial centres.

The goal of the project is to increase the capacity in the FODE centres so that an increased number of out-of-school youth can complete secondary level certificate and diploma programs.

The funding will improve the quality of FODE's programs and increase its capacity to expand its services.

The project will be implemented over 5 years.

The Minister on behalf of more than 46,000 teachers and 1.5 million students thanked the World Bank for its support.

Parental responsibility to pay school fees

The Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio, is calling on all parents and guardians of children attending schools and institutions through out the country to honour their obligation to contribute to their children's education by meeting their full share of the cost of educating their children progressively through the year.

Dr. Pagelio reminded parents and guardians that schools are not profit making bodies and therefore; they rely on school fees and funding assistance from the National Government to sustain their operations.

He added that school fees make up most of the funding needed to operate schools therefore, it is very important that parents pay their children's school fees.

The Acting Secretary said the Department of Education recognises the problems parents face in paying for school fees, and school boards should



Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio

negotiate with parents that genuinely do not have the cash to pay school fees to pay in 'kind'. That is they can arrange to make an equivalent contribution in some other way, such as by contributing food for boarding students, or by students or parents working on school maintenance duties.

Where parents have outstanding school fees to pay, schools should take corrective measures to ensure that these parents honour their obligation, since their children have received an education at the expense of someone else.

Parents who pay in installments

should be asked to sign an agreement to progressively settle their part of the school fees throughout this year.

Dr. Pagelio said schools should be taking up such debt recovery with parents and not the children. Students must not be penalized for the lack of responsibility by parents in non-payment of school fees.

"The Government's goal is to provide education opportunities to all children, and that this is only possible when the national and provincial governments, school boards and parents and guardians work together to meet the costs of educating our children", said Dr. Pagelio.

He said parents and guardians around the country owe schools huge amounts of money each year, due to the non-payment of school fees and has urged parents to ensure that they continuously support their children to complete their education and training.

EHP launch SLIP

The Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio announced that one hundred and sixty-seven schools situated in the five Districts in Eastern Highlands Province; Ungai-Bena, Henganofi, Kainantu, Obura-Wonenara and Okapa have launched their School Learning Improvement Plans (SLIP).

SLIP was launched in the province on Monday 14th March, at Ketarobo Primary School for the twenty-nine schools in the Ungai-Bena District.

Dr. Pagelio said on Tuesday 15th March, thirty-two primary schools in Henganofi District launched their SLIP at Henganofi Primary School.

On Wednesday 16th March, sixty-six primary schools in the Kainantu and Obura-Wonenara Districts had a combined launch of their plans at Yonki Primary School.

Dr. Pagelio said the number of schools to launch their SLIPs in EHP also included elementary and secondary schools.

The Acting Secretary stated that the launch of the SLIPs will signify the approval of funding that the 167 schools have been given by the Eastern Highlands Provincial Education Board and Education Adviser, Mr. Conrad Esoke.

Dr. Pagelio said the launching was also to reflect that the 167 schools have satisfactorily passed the prescribed processes and criteria used for SLIP development before their plans were endorsed and ready for implementation.

The launch of the SLIP for the 167 Primary Schools was officiated by the Assistant Secretary – Standards & Guidance, Mr. Peter Kants.

SLIP is a three year plan that all schools must develop and implement.

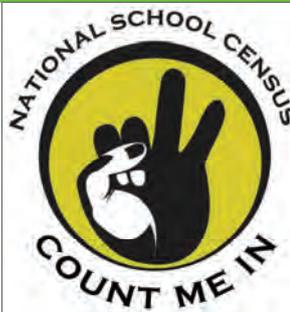
It includes an annual action plan with strategies that will bring about school improvements by best utilising the resources at the school level.

It requires schools to set goals and targets for better student outcomes.

The plan reflects the national Government's objective of providing quality education and the community's expectation for its children.

National School Census 2011 observed

The National School Census week was observed from March 21st to 25th, 2011 and the Acting Secretary for Education Dr. Joseph Pagelio said the national school census is an annual activity which the Department of Education conducts in order to collect reliable and accurate data.



up to 12,000 head teachers and principals to fill in their school census forms in an accurate and timely manner.

He said provincial coordinators are crucial to the success of the School Census Program as they will be

responsible for organising the School Census in their respective provinces.

These data will be used to measure the Department's performance against the education goals the government has set.

The school data assists the Department to project the number of teachers, students and infrastructure in each education sector annually.

Dr. Pagelio said the national school census data helps the department to perform major education indicators trend analysis on all major education policies and programs.

For example, the Acting Secretary explained that the trend analysis of student enrolment in each sector of education is calculated.

These, will enable the department to project number of teachers to be trained and number of classrooms and schools to be built.

He added that the school census data also helps the department to develop policies, budgets, programs and projects to support education development in the country.

Dr. Pagelio warned that head teachers who knowingly inflate school census data would be identified and dealt with.

He stated that there are school head teachers and principals inflating school census figures in order to get a bigger share of national and provincial government subsidies.

Dr. Pagelio said that provincial census coordinators were responsible at the provincial level to prepare

Dr. Pagelio said that it is important that the provinces come up with provincial plans to guide all the school census activities in their provinces.

He also said the plans should include the following:

A School Census Head Teacher Meetings plan, a plan for a Provincial Training of Trainers (TOT), a plan for a Post Census Facilitators meeting, a plan for distribution and collection of School Census forms and a summary of the Provincial School Census Plan Budget.

The key dates for the 2011 School Census are as follows:

- March 21 – 25 School Census Week, Head Teacher meetings in clusters/zones to review and collect school census forms,
- April 18, School Census Forms due back at NDoE,
- June 30, National and Provincial Census Reports completed and,
- July 4 2011 School Census Evaluation completed.

The Acting Secretary for Education has appealed to all schools throughout the country to fill out school census forms accurately.

He said it was important that all schools from elementary up to vocational centres fill this form so that the Department will use the information from this form to plan and budget for future developments in the education system.

Elementary is FEE FREE in 2011

The Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio is calling on all elementary schools around the country not to charge parents school fees.

Dr. Pagelio made this call in response to recent media articles alleging elementary schools in some provinces were charging school fees and refusing to accept children, who did not pay to enrol at the start of the school year.

The teachers in-charge of elementary schools must not ask for any school fee from parents because this year will be the second year that the National Government and AusAID will fully subsidise elementary education.

Elementary school managers, head teachers and administration must note that this year Elementary Prep to Grade 2 fees will be fully subsidized by the National Government and AusAID, meaning that parents will not pay school fees for their children in the Elementary sector.

Dr. Pagelio also called on all elementary school authorities not to turn students away for non payment of school fees.

"School age children must not be deprived of their right to education as the National Government has made it its commitment to subsidize Elementary fees in 2011," Dr Pagelio said.

He added that parents are still required to pay for project fees, uniforms and shoes, and other important items that their children need to use when in school like stationery items.

Dr. Pagelio said elementary schools are allowed to ask parents to pay project fees that will fund small projects for the school but these project fees must not be excessive and must not put extra burden on parents.

He said the project fee is required by certain elementary schools for the maintenance of their classrooms or buildings and for purchasing materials for the schools operations.

He added that all elementary schools are encouraged to come up with ways to raise funds to cater for operational needs and should not entirely rely on parents to pay for such needs.

Dr. Pagelio also called on parents and community leaders to assist elementary schools in coming up with ways and means to raise funds for the school, which in turn will benefit children in the community.

The Acting Secretary said the total appropriation for 2011 subsidy is K199.5 million of which the Government of Papua New Guinea has allocated K172 million while AusAID has given K27.5 million.

The Acting Secretary said, this year there will be three lots of payments.

The Elementary sector can expect their school subsidies by the end of February, while the other sectors will be paid in two payments. One will be in March while the final payment will be in August," Dr. Pagelio said.

The Acting Secretary said the 2011 Education Subsidy Policy is aimed at ensuring that the cost of education is shared responsibly between the National Government, Provincial Governments and the parents/guardians.

The Education Subsidies are provided to give more responsibilities to School Boards and School Head Teachers, Principals and Managers to make decisions that will improve access and quality of education.

It is hoped that the elimination and reduction of financial barriers will enable the parents to send and retain their children in schools.

"This year's education subsidy should reduce the burden of parents paying fees for their children.

Thus, all elementary schools around the country should accept enrolments without charging school fees, because subsidy payments to all elementary schools were paid in mid March, 2011," Dr. Pagelio said.

Western Highlands thanks NDoE for Elementary subsidy

The Western Highlands Education office has thanked the National Department of Education, for the quick processing of their elementary school subsidies.

Western Highlands Administrator, Mr. Malcolm Culligan thanked the department saying that the subsidies will go a long way in assisting parents and also the schools in much needed areas.

Mr. Culligan said parents can now use their budgeted money for school fees to buy new clothes, stationery items and other necessities for their children.

Western Highlands Provincial Education Advisor, Mr. Joe Yaga, thanked the department for the subsidies saying that over the years Western Highlands receives its school subsidies after most provinces.

He said it was timely as schools can now concentrate in funding projects that will benefit the children and the community.

Mr. Yaga told parents to go to schools and get refunded if they have already paid their children's school fees, and also called on schools not to hold back

reimbursement payments to parents.

He also reminded parents and guardians that schools may charge project fees which parents must pay to start projects in the schools.

Subsidy payments for 302 elementary schools in the Western Highlands total up to K2, 473, 150 million.

Western Highlands is the second province after Morobe to receive its elementary subsidy payments, while other schools received theirs in the second week of March, 2011.

NOTICES



Elementary School children in Mt Hagen saying the National Pledge during the opening of the 171st NEB Meeting, in Mt Hagen Western Highlands Province.



Primary school students saying the National Pledge in Mt Hagen, WHP



Deputy Secretary, Mr. Damien Rapese with a pig given to him by the WHP Administration.



Excitement filled the air for these students of remote Western Highlands, when Digicel Foundation donated school bags, stationery items and books to them.



The Head girl and head boy of Carr Memorial Primary School receiving their European Union donated books, from Education Minister, James Marape, in 2010

- April 4th, Heads of institutions to complete and forward monthly staffing returns for March to PDoE and DoE Corporate Data.
- April 12th, Teachers due for furlough leave in July 2012 to apply to PEO or respective DoE AS before May 6th.
- April 18th—21st, CCLS to send completed 2012 new school registration list to establishment section, HROD for input.
- April 21, Term 1 ends for all schools and Vocational Centers, PNGEI, PTCs, TCs, and Business Colleges (Consult Divisional Circulars).
- Friday April 22 and Monday April 25 are Easter Public Holidays.
- April 21st, Teachers complete RoDSS/ Form EDB012 for any appointment variations, Heads of Institutions check, sign and forward to appropriate PEO, DoE or AS at earliest opportunity.
- April 21, Closing date for applications for personal reports for all sectors.
- April 21st, Non citizen teachers due for 2012 contracts renewals. And Appointment officers conduct quality check on RoDSS/Appointment variations and forward changes to DoE
- April 29th, Application for personal/ declaration of eligibilities close.
- Notice to Principals & Academic Deputies of Secondary, National High and other private schools taking Grade 11 and 12 in 2011 that, the In-service on Changes to the Grade 12 Examinations organised by the Measurement Services Branch (MSB) for 28th March - 01st April is deferred to 26th - 29th April during the Term 1 school holiday.
- This is to allow for all logistics and airline tickets to be purchased.
- In the mean time, the principals and deputies should complete all other requirements of the workshop as requested by the MSB.
- For further information contact, Mr Greg Kapanombo, the acting director of MSB on 3257700 or 72228064 or 72941932 or 76445095.

TSC: Circular 3 of 2010 must be revisited

The care taker Chairman of the Teaching Service Commission, Mr. Jerry Kuhena has reminded all the Provincial Education Boards and Governing Councils of the provincial and national institutions in Papua New Guinea to revisit Circular No. 3 of 2010 regarding making appointments on teachers in their respective provinces.

This Circular was jointly signed by the Acting Secretary, Dr. Joseph Pagelio and the former TSC Acting Chairman, Mr. Michael Pearson and was sent to all the Provincial Appointing Authorities.

Mr. Kuhena said one of the purposes of Circular No. 3, 2010 was to inform the institutions and their governing bodies about the non publication of the 2010 Vacancy Gazette of which, the institutions were requested to retain stability of appointments by only making acting appointment change where they are absolutely

necessary.

He also reminded them that the promotional acting appointments in each elementary school should be based on the following:

Firstly, the elementary teacher be fully registered – in this case, having completed and attended a Certificate in Elementary Teaching (CET) and having a satisfactory registration inspection.

Secondly, the teacher must have a successful personal report granting eligibility to the acting level.

Third is seniority, and finally, the elementary teacher trainees are only to be considered if no registered elementary teacher is available.

Mr. Kuhena stressed that elementary teachers are not to be transferred to other schools.

Regarding the base level acting appointments in Community and Primary Schools, High and Secondary

Schools, and Vocational Centres, the care taker Chairman pointed out that all base level teachers should remain in their acting or tenure appointment.

New graduates should not displace the serving members who are already held against a vacant teaching position.

Mr. Kuhena specified that promotional acting appointments in the provinces should not make changes to the 2010 appointments except where teachers are to:

- Take up 2009/10 Tenure Appointments that they were unable to take up in the middle of 2010 when the notice was given.
- Fill consequential promotional vacancies because of the reason stated above and teachers leaving the service by deceasing, retirement and resignation, and other approved leaves, and lastly, transfer to and from other provinces.

Computers for Buka Secondary students

Secondary school students and teachers in Hutjena and Tarlena Secondary Schools in Buka, Autonomous Region of Bougainville are proud recipients of forty (40) new computers from the Department of Education.

Twenty new computers were installed at Hutjena Secondary School and twenty were installed at Tarlena Secondary School.

The computers were purchased by the Department of Education to deliver on a promise from the previous Education Minister, Mr. Tony Aimo.

The computers were supplied by Able Computing and were installed by Mr. Thomas Podarua from the Department of Education ICT unit and Mr. Karl Turnbull from AusAID with the assistance of the schools.

Part of the installation included networking the computers and running in-service training sessions for teachers.

Mr. Podarua said they purchased high quality Lenovo computers with a three year warranty and these two schools

were the first in the country to be installed with Microsoft Windows 7 and Microsoft Office 2010.

The computers also included a variety of teaching and learning software such as Microsoft Encarta and TALIS which is a digital library (eLibrary) developed by the Department of Education for schools with the focus on PNG related content including video and audio content.

Mr. Turnbull said he was impressed with the hospitality, assistance, enthusiasm and commitment shown by the two schools especially, as teachers attended the in-service training sessions in their own time at night and on the weekend.

The Principal of Tarlena Secondary, Ms. Lucy Oata said students who graduated from Tarlena Secondary School had no computing skills and found it difficult to catch up once they reached university or employment.

Ms. Oata was very grateful that students from Tarlena now had access to the latest technology to best prepare them for the future.



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