

SIHAY PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

P.O. BOX 173-40614

SEGA – KENYA

FEEDBACK REPORT ON SCHOOL'S MATHEMATICS RESOURCE CENTRE

INTRODUCTION:

Two years ago, this historical school was on the verge of collapsing. Hearing this, Peter Owino Ranginya and Wendelmoet Hamelink, a Kenyan-Dutch couple based in Kisumu, decided to intervene and try to rescue the school. In October 2023, they raised Kesh. 2 million from their friends that were used to give the school the long overdue facelift (renovation of the classrooms, roof, outside walls). In May 2024, they received for the school a donation of nearly Kes.500,000 from WERELDWISKUNDE FONDS in the Netherlands for establishment of the school's mathematics resource center. Additionally, the couple donated three desktop computers and screens, and 2 laptops to the school by their own means. The school donated 2 trees for the wood of making cupboards, worth 40,000 Kes. The two projects have greatly contributed to improving the quality of education offered at the school.



SITUATION BEFORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE

The above-mentioned availability of resources is a great improvement compared to the previous situation. The school is situated in a poorly developed region where many people live from hand to mouth. In Kenya, students from parents with better means are going to boarding schools. Day schools like the Sihay school do not have a good name as they are regarded as schools for the poor. The schools are dependent on benevolent politicians or private initiatives for renovation, clean drinking water, sanitary facilities such as toilets, soap and menstruation pads. Due to political developments, since the August 2022 elections schools often experienced delayed or decreased payment of government funding. They were therefore at times even unable to pay teachers salaries, who already receive little pay.

In an area where families struggle to get a meal a day on the table, it can be a very real concern for the same families to arrange for school uniforms, shoes, and enough food for the learners to concentrate on education. Many homesteads lack electricity. Although good quality school materials are abundantly available in the nearest town Kisumu, a 2,5 hour trip by public means, they are unaffordable for the majority of learners. Schools only have the very basic, and do not have a budget either to provide learners with schoolbooks. Teachers use outdated schoolbooks, let alone that they would have any extra materials available for the students.



It is therefore that small improvements such as the availability of schoolbooks and mathematic aids are big novelties for the teachers and learners. It is hard to overstate how much excitement these materials bring to the learners who live in very basic conditions, have seen little or no games and toys in their life, let alone materials that can help them with their education. In the area, education is regarded as the way to make it in life, and also young learners are aware of its importance. The Mathematics Resource Centre has therefore been an enormous inspiration for the teachers and learners.



OPENING OF THE MATHEMATICS RESOURCE CENTER

On Saturday the 13th of July 2024, the Mathematics Resource Center was festively opened. Such events are of fundamental importance as a motivational event for the entire community. It gives people a sense of pride, value and confidence that their school has been uplifted and has better resources than before. The festive opening therefore attracted many people, parents and students who wanted to witness the new development.

Another reason why such openings, and display of the received materials and improvements, are important is because of Kenya's very high corruption rates. This means that people are used to money and materials disappearing in the pockets of the

leadership. By showcasing all the materials bought, people can see that the received funding has been used properly and for the aim for which it was given.





OPERATION OF MATHEMATICS RESOURCE CENTER.

The core of the Mathematics Resource Center is the mathematics learning materials that took the largest portion of the budget. These materials included black geometrical instruments, technical drawing instruments, top scholar series of books for Grades 4 to 8 for both pupils & teachers, visionary series of mathematics books for Grades 4 to 8 for both pupils & teachers, Abacus, mathematical Geometrical sets, Calculators, work materials and different kinds of mathematical games.

The original plan was to place all these mathematics learning aids and mathematical games on shelves in two rooms with chairs and tables. That should have given teachers and learners freedom to use the center at their convenient time: teachers using it to help weaker learners, students/pupils using it alone or helping each other, and senior students/pupils helping junior students/pupils. However, this plan had to be shelved due to the small capacity in the rooms, an increase in number of learners at the school after the renovation and the establishment of the mathematics resource center. In addition, there were also security concerns about leaving all these materials displayed on shelves

where it would be difficult to ensure that they would not slowly disappear. A more restrictive but secure system was adopted.



Today, all the learning aids are stored in locked cupboards in the staff room. Teachers always have access to materials all the time including weekends or during school holidays, so that they can use materials whenever they want to plan for their lessons. The books are used by teachers when preparing their lessons and during actual teaching. Before the start of each mathematics lesson for each grade, learners go to the resource center to collect books and other learning aids needed for the class. Classes go into the resource center during different times as scheduled in the resource timetable. Learners can borrow materials to use in groups in their spare time within the school compound. They are, however, not allowed to take them home and need to bring them back on the same day to the storage room.

The learners play mathematics related games on Wednesdays and Fridays after classes. The learners are guided by the learning area teachers in groups, giving instructions for beginners and organizing competitions between grades.



BENEFITS AND RESULTS OF THE RESOURCE CENTER

The resource center offers support activities that enhance learning in mathematics. Samwel Otieno of Grade 6 is proud to comment, 'From the time we got books and other resources from the mathematics association from Netherlands, I have enjoyed learning mathematics more and it is easier to understand. Today I can meet expectations. Thank you very much our donors.' Teacher Cornel Otieno, the Mathematics department Chairperson says, 'The Wereldwiskunde fonds funding of relative Mathematics resource center has made planning and preparation of mathematics lessons easier and more effective. The learners have hands on as they work with the resources. Kudos to the Fonds.'

The school performance was only slightly better in 2024 National Exams compared to 2023. That was expected because the learners who take examinations had the privilege of using the resource center for only a few months. The resource center became operational at the end of July 2024 and the national examinations were in November 2024. The school is confident that this year's learners will perform much better in the national examinations. Teachers have noticed a clear interest of learners in mathematics since the resource center was established.

The school have also an increased enrollment of new learners at the beginning of this year. This is clearly due to the renovation of the school and the resource center. Quite a number of learners are coming from the neighboring schools. The increased enrollment has resulted in a ratio of 1:2 on materials such as books and geometrical sets. The school regards this as positive because it encourages learners to help each other.



APPRECIATION

The learners, teachers and the entire local community appreciate WERELDWISKUNDE FONDS kind gesture to fund the establishment of the mathematics resource center at our school. It has contributed to enhancing the quality of education to our learners. Our school has become a place to envy in the locality. Even the district government educational officer has congratulated the school for this private initiative to improve the standard of education.

BUDGET UTILIZATION

All Teaching & Learning materials:	Kes. 428,225.6	
Bliss Book Centre, first consignment		Kes. 291,768.1
Lost receipt, second consignment		Kes. 136,457.5
Transport from Nairobi:	Kes. 11,000	
Additional mathematics games:	Kes. 17,000	
Labor for making cupboards:	Kes. 23,000	
Padlocks:	Kes. 8,000	
Printing mathematics mock exams:	Kes. 12,000	
Total spent:	Kes. 499,225.6	
Received:	Euro 3,567	

Explanation budget

Teaching and learning materials are listed in the below attached receipt. Not all materials were available before the opening of the Mathematics Resource Centre. The materials that were not yet available were sent as a second consignment after the opening. Unfortunately, the receipt for the second consignment got lost and we are still working on getting it from the provider. The receipt for the first consignment was delivered together with the materials, but according to the school this did not happen for the second consignment.

The other budget posts were paid in cash, which means receipts are not available.

In total 11,000 was spent on transport of the materials from Nairobi to the school (over 400km). The materials were bought in Nairobi at the cheapest possible provider. Buying them in the nearby town Kisumu would have been much more expensive.

Cupboards with locks were made to safely store the materials in the staff room. The school donated 2 trees worth 40,000 Kes to make the cupboards (wood is expensive in Kenya). Although the trees were donated, a craftsman had to be paid to make the cupboards.

For the final exams of that year, some additional money was used to print mock exams so that the students were able to practice for the real exams. This was meant as a further motivational action to encourage the students with their exams.

Bliss Book Centre Lagos Road

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No. : 00063833

Sales Worksheet / Proforma Invoice

M/S : CASH SALE

01/07/2024

Code	Particulars	Qty	Price	Disc	Amount	VAT	Total
Y1269	TOURNAMENT CHESS MAT	1	2,155.15	0.00	2,155.15	344.80	2,499.95
Y1029	BINDING TAPE-DUCT TAPE	6	215.50	0.00	1,293.00	207.00	1,500.00
Y0103	BINDING GLUE 1 KG	3	129.31	0.00	387.95	62.05	450.00
Y0976	MAGIC CUBE-RUBIC BOX	10	172.40	0.00	1,724.00	276.00	2,000.00
Y1189	1000 PCS PUZZLE	5	862.05	0.00	4,310.25	689.50	4,999.75
Y0352	MONOPOLY GAME	3	1,293.10	0.00	3,879.30	620.70	4,500.00
Y0745	SNAKES AND LADDERS GAME-BIG	3	1,293.10	0.00	3,879.30	620.70	4,500.00
Y0722	BRAINS CHESS GAME-SMALL	3	1,293.10	0.00	3,879.30	620.70	4,500.00
Y0875	CASIO CALCULATOR-82MS-2ND EDITION	24	1,594.85	0.00	38,276.40	6,123.60	44,400.00
Y0928	ABACUS BIG	2	387.95	0.00	775.90	124.10	900.00
Y0246	MATHEMATICAL SET-OXFORD	60	254.30	0.00	15,258.00	2,442.00	17,700.00
Y0274	MARKER PEN FELT PEN)-2089	20	43.10	0.00	862.00	138.00	1,000.00
Y1073	MG WHITEBOARD 3 BY 5-WITH STAND	1	8,189.65	0.00	8,189.65	1,310.35	9,500.00
Y0283	SET SQUARE-30-35CM-BIG-PAIR-OMEGA	10	387.95	0.00	3,879.50	620.50	4,500.00
Z0053	BLACKBOARD DIVIDER-WOODEN	10	215.50	0.00	2,155.00	345.00	2,500.00
Y0682	PLASTIC BLACKBOARD PROTRACTOR-YELLO	10	387.95	0.00	3,879.50	620.50	4,500.00
Y0681	PLASTIC BLACKBOARD COMPASS	10	387.95	0.00	3,879.50	620.50	4,500.00
Y1022	MG BLACK BOARD RULER-PLASTIC	1	494.80	0.00	494.80	79.15	573.95
M0682	LETS DO MATHS GRD 6 T/G	1	475.00	0.00	475.00	76.00	551.00
M0600	LETS DO MATHS GRD 5 T/G	1	375.00	0.00	375.00	60.00	435.00
M0577	LETS DO MATHS GRD 4 T/G	1	780.15	0.00	780.15	124.80	904.95
M0719	ACTIVE MATHS GRD 8 T/G	50	780.15	0.00	39,007.50	6,240.00	45,247.50
M0718	ACTIVE MATHS GRD 8	1	600.00	0.00	600.00	96.00	696.00
M0683	ACTIVE MATHS GRD 7 T/G	50	650.00	0.00	32,500.00	5,200.00	37,700.00
M0663	ACTIVE MATHS GRD 7	50	540.00	0.00	27,000.00	4,320.00	31,320.00
M0637	LETS DO MATHS GRD 6	50	515.00	0.00	25,750.00	4,120.00	29,870.00
M0597	LETS DO MATHS GRD 5	50	440.00	0.00	22,000.00	3,520.00	25,520.00
M0565	LETS DO MATHS GRD 4						
Thank you for shopping with us					251,525.65	40,242.45	291,768.10
Served by :- +KAMONJO JACKSON							

Equity Bank

AK 0120200268194

Tea Room Branch