



Pipeline

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JANUARY— MARCH 2014



"Quality Teaching & Learning makes a difference in schools"

Education Ministry Handover/Takeover

THE National Executive Council has appointed a new minister for the Ministry of Education.

He is Honourable Nick Kuman, Member for Gumine Electorate in the Simbu Province.

The official handover/takeover ceremony took place at Papua New Guinea Education Institute hall on Friday, 28th February, 2014.

Dr. Micheal Tapo on behalf of the department, schools, institutions, teachers, students and parents congratulated Hon. Nick Kuman on his appointment as the Minister for Education.

He also thanked Hon. James Marape, the Minister for Finance and outgoing acting Minister for Education for all his support in ensuring the government's key strategies were achieved.

Dr. Tapo said the education



From left: Education Secretary Dr. Michael Tapo, Incoming Minister Hon. Nick Kuman, Finance and outgoing acting Minister Hon. James Marape and Finance Secretary Dr. Ken Ngangan during the Handover.

sector will give Hon. Kuman all the support he needs.

Mr. Kuman holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Environmental Management) with Honours from the University of Western Sydney. He was employed with the NCDC for 19 years. Prior to the 2002

National Election Mr. Kuman was the Deputy City Manager of NCDC.

He was first elected to the 7th National Parliament in 2002 for Gumine Open Seat as an Independent Candidate then founded the Peoples National Congress Party. He was

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re-elected to the 9th National Parliament by way of National Court Declaration after a successful victory through the Court of Election Dispute on the 20th of November 2013.

Mr. Kuman was appointed Minister for Education in the O'Neill/Dion Cabinet on the 24th of February, 2014. ***

Former Secretary passed on....

FORMER Education Secretary Dr Joseph Pagelio passed on early this year.

Dr. Pagelio had been hospitalized for about 5 months at the Port Moresby General Hospital and died on Tuesday 21st January, 2014.

Dr Pagelio was described by many as one of the most hum-

ble and distinguished top public servants in the country.

Originally from West New Britain Dr Pagelio started as a teacher at Dregerhafen High school and worked his way up to the Department's top post. He served the department for more than 30 years.

He was laid to rest at his Meselia

village, on Saturday February 1st, 2014.

1971 St Mary's Vuvu Boys High School

1974 Goroka Teachers College —(Diploma in Secondary Teaching)

1977 - 80 Deputy Headmaster (Muaina High School, Simbu

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78 percent enrolment in 2014

PNG school enrolment rate is now closing into 80 percent according to Outgoing acting Education Minister James Marape.

Mr Marape revealed this in Parliament on Tuesday, February 11th, 2014 when debating on a Ministerial Statement on Department of Education First Quarter Report of 2013.

"In 2010, the gross enrolment rate stood at 54% . Last year it was at 74%. This year it increased to 78%, a marked improvement," he said.

The massive strides have been made as a result of the Government's Tuition fee free policy. And the policy would continue to run next year and the ensuring coming years, he said.

Since the introduction of the free education policy the enrolment rate has gone from



Mr. Marape with Wardstrip Primary students during the Handover/takeover ceremony.

less than 60% and is closing in on 80%.

"Schools are starting to experience overcrowding especially in the lower levels of basic education,"s he said.

Mr Marape said the Government has taken the policy head on and while the free education policy is there to attract more children to the classrooms, there are many parents who are still ignorant and are not putting their children into schools.

The Government is now mooted the idea of compulsory education and the Government will introduce legislation into promulgation this year.

"Education remains the No 1 focus of the Government and we intend in the life of this Parliament, to bridge the current 22% who are still not in the classrooms."

Mr Marape said he will give an updated figure on exactly how many children we have in the classrooms immediately after the enrolment for this year is concluded."

Mr Marape admitted that PNG will not achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goal target of universal education (100% enrolment) for all by 2015.

"We are getting closer but we will not achieve the target. However, we are not compelled to submit a scorecard," he said.



"It is the moral duty of the Government to provide for education, and commits that by the time we go to the elections in 2017, we would submit a better scorecard than what we inherited in 2012, in as far as the education sector is concerned." ***



Former Secretary passed on....

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1983-85 Headmaster
1986-1989 Inspector
1990 UPNG Bachelor in Education (Inservice)
1994 Education National Planner
1996 Assistant Secretary — Policy, Research & Communication

1997 First Assistant Secretary — Finance & Administration
2000 Doctorate in Education (University of Queensland)
2001 First Assistant Secretary — Policy, Planning, Research & Communication
2003 Deputy Secretary — Standards &



Human Resource

2005 Acting Secretary for Education
2006-2011 Secretary for Education
Dr Pagelio is survived by his wife Jane, two children Felix and Lisa and several grandchildren.

Secretary Dr Tapo sent condolence message on behalf of the department saying that the department is sad to have lost a great leader who served with distinction as a teacher, inspector, planner, first assistant secretary, deputy secretary and secretary for the department. ***

"Loss of a great leader who served with distinction"

School curriculum for 2014 School Year

SECRETARY for Education Dr. Michael Tapo in a recent Media conference said Outcome Based Education will still be used in the teaching and assessment in 2014 school year until further notice.

Teachers from all levels of educational institutions were urged to continue with the OBE curriculum by putting on more emphasis on maintaining standards in their teaching processes.

Dr. Tapo said schools will be informed of the change in curriculum through an official Circular from the office of the Secretary. The Standard Based Curriculum will supersede the much talked about OBE but this will happen after the Secretary's Instruction during the course of the year.

Dr. Tapo said there is not much change in the curriculum when moving from the OBE to Standard Based Curriculum. The teaching and learning content will be similar to that of the past curriculum but more emphasis will be placed on maintaining standards.

Educators at all levels of institutions are urged to work hard and give quality education to the children of Papua New Guinea. Standard Based Curriculum will not see much changes in the teaching

topics and practices. The teaching and learning content is going to be the same but the teaching approaches and strategies will vary in order to achieve higher learning standards.

Stressing more on standards, Dr. Tapo said English will be the language of instruction in the schools starting at the elementary level.

The Jolly Phonics which was trialed last year in a few elementary schools in NCD will be taught as part of the whole language lesson in the elementary and primary schools in the 2014 school year.

Dr. Tapo said it is the proper mastering of the English language that will improve the child's learning to reach greater heights. The inclusion of the Jolly Phonics in the language lesson will bring about a lot of changes in an individual child's learning. They will be able to read, write and communicate and learn more using the different learning modes.

Dr. Tapo therefore emphasized the need for teachers to pay more attention to the English lessons because he considers this as the only way forward to reach higher standards in the PNG education system.

Probe into NCD Schools

AN independent audit team has been appointed to investigate National Capital District schools.

The Department of Education and the Department of Finance have established an independent audit team to carry out investigations into all works that have been carried out in the NCD.

Education Secretary Dr Michael Tapo said in a statement on Thursday 13 March, 2014 that the audit team will look into payments already made to service providers and contractors to establish whether the claims were legitimate.

If not, these persons and companies will



be prosecuted.

This covers all work done in the city schools, and the Office of the National Library and Archives.

"There is no money for infrastructure works in the 2013 & 2014 budget."

His announcement comes after the Finance Minister and outgoing acting Education Minister James Marape announced in January that a team will be set up to probe more than K200 million worth of claims submitted by contractors.

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New Education Minister Hon. Nick Kuman, Secretary Dr. Tapo with senior education officers at the Handover /takeover ceremony at PNGEI Hall.

Dr Tapo emphasises importance of school infrastructure

THE Secretary for Education Dr. Michael Tapo in his beginning of the school year press conference stressed strongly that school infrastructure is a very important component for all schools and institutions in the education sector.

Schools and institutions cannot meet the required expectation in teaching and learning programs without better school infrastructure. Students learn well in an environment that is sound and conducive. If schools and institutions can have the much needed infrastructure in place, they will gain better results and achieve higher standards.

Without proper school infrastructure, we will continue to face problems and the expected reforms in the education sector will not be implemented as expected.

The Department of Education already realises the need for better infrastructure in schools because of the inclusion of the policies like Universal Basic Education, Compulsory Education, Early Childhood Education and Tuition Free Fee.

All stakeholders include the parents, teachers, community, the government officers and our elected leaders are urged to work together to build and maintain our school infrastructure.

According to the level of the schools, the elementary schools infrastructure remains the sole responsibility of the local communities while the districts and provinces will continue to take care of the infrastructure in primary, secondary and high schools. The National High schools, Schools of Excellence and the other tertiary institutions come under the national government's function.

Also the national government acknowledges the need for Information Technology (IT) in the tertiary institutions and efforts are made to equip all institutions with these very important facilities. Schools in the provinces are also encouraged to include this in their plans as part of the school infrastructure development.

Teachers' accommodation is also becoming a problem in every school thus affecting the teaching and learning in the classrooms. Genuine staff accommodation in schools can always boost the morale of the teachers to perform to their abilities.

Many schools and institutions have different infrastructure needs depending on the type of learning programs they offer. With the required infrastructure in place, delivery of theory and practical lessons will meet the benchmark that is required in the field of education worldwide.



As we look forward to meet the governments vision of an educated Papua New Guinea society, new policies like compulsory education, universal basic education and early childhood learning are introduced. These policies are developed and implemented to achieve the Governments Vision 2050.

However, infrastructure at schools will play a major part in making this vision come to reality. As partners in education, we in our capacity as teachers, head teachers, school boards, inspectors and provincial education personnel must inform our parents, guardians and the wider community of the need for the school infrastructure development. Our support in implementing government policies through awareness is very important.

Everyone in the education sector must have ownership in the education facilities that we have at our respective locations. As citizens, we must do our part by looking after these facilities so they can last. Together we can build our schools and institutions in our country for the good of our children today and the future generations.

As we know that school is a second home for our children, we must therefore maintain it to a standard that is suitable for the children to live and learn. Our undivided effort to support the school infrastructure is needed to see our children achieve their dreams in life.

Let's all work together to help develop the much needed human resource of the country. Our schools and institutions are capable of producing skilled workforce we need. It is therefore imperative that we all ensure that our citizens get the maximum benefit during their education. ***



Dr. Tapo accompanying Minister Kuman to Badili Community College to check on the infrastructure and courses offered.

INCLUSION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION AS PART OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEM

THE Secretary for Education announced for the inclusion of the Early Childhood Education in the education sector in the beginning of the 2014 school year.

The Early Childhood Education which is currently the remit of the Department of Community Development will be transferred to the Department of Education during this year and a new division will be created having its own staff and funding.

By the end of 2015, the national early childhood education framework will be in place and the plans for the implementation stages will then be made known by way of press releases and other electronic medium through the Office of the Secretary.

The National Government is seeing education as the only way forward in the development of our country. Our emphasis now is to see every child get the best education possible under the national education system.

The Education Department will take charge of all sectors of education starting from early Childhood learning centers to the tertiary level of education. This means the department will monitor learning at all levels of education, making sure that the children of Papua New Guinea are given the required relevant education.

As the foundation for education starts at the early childhood years, this must be nurtured well in the more systemized and recognized schools under the National Education System.

Research reveals that students who came through the early childhood learning centers perform better academically and we are therefore tasked to have this system in place for all Papua New Guinea children.

Learning starts from the time the child is born and as he grows up, his mind is open to grasp any information regardless of their quality and quantity. Correctly educating a child at the early age will set the pathway for him to adopt as he grows up. Early childhood education is therefore the important pathway to prepare a child at the early years of learning.

The development of the framework should commence immediately once the responsibility is transferred from the Department of Community Development to the Department of Education.



Education authorities at the national, provincial and district level are to support and facilitate the implementation of this very important inclusion as this was the missing link in our education system since the national education system came into existence in our country. This inclusion must be grasped with open arms to raise the standard of education in this country.

Though the inclusion of Early Childhood Education is at its preliminary stages, head teachers, teachers, parents and communities must provide their undivided support when required.

The Senior Standard Officers and Standard Officers for elementary, primary, secondary and vocational centers should take the responsibility to disseminate information of this major change so that schools, parents and the public will understand and offer their support in any way possible.

As partners in education, we must stand together and implement the policy and structural changes in the education so that we can achieve the Government's Vision 2050. ***



Government plans for more education reforms

THE O'Neill Government is expected to initiate more education reforms to improve THE deficiencies influenced by the free education policy.

These reforms will include the abolishing of grade 7 and 8 at the top up school and revert back to the former systems of grade 7-10 in high schools.

The outgoing acting Education and Finance Minister James Marape said this is because the top-up schools are still in the primary school system and do not have the capacity to cater for the grades 7 and 8 classes.

Mr. Marape said when the students go up to grade nine there is a disjoint, causing a big gap in their learning capacity as there is lack of libraries, science laboratories and computers.

The minister said he has given the signal to the education department to start preparing to make this change.

He said provincial education authorities should also make necessary adjustments to accommodate this change.

Mr. Marape said Primary schools must begin at grade one after two years elementary schooling and high school from grade seven to ten.

In the long term the government intend to have all high schools to start from grade seven right through to grade 12.

Mr Marape said the government will allocate funding for the school infrastructure across the country next year.

He said the government is also making elementary compulsory this year and urged all parents to send their children aged between five and six years to elementary school.

All school administrations and education authorities should provide accurate school data from elementary up to secondary schools and submit with a proper infra-

structure development plans to Waigani.

The outgoing acting minister said the government will provide the funding according to the data and infrastructure plan provided by the Provincial Education authorities which also must be endorsed by the respective Governors.

Mr. Marape revealed the Government's plan last February in Kimbe during the launching of the school buses purchased by Government Sasindran Muthuvel to



Handover/takeover ceremony in pictures



Disbursement of the 1st Tuition Fee Free Payment to Schools

The O'Neill-Dion Government has honored its commitment to assist parents and guardians with the payment of full tuition fees for their children attending Elementary Preparatory to Grade 12 schools, Flexible & Open Distance Education Centres, Vocational Centres and Inclusive Education Resource Centers (IERCs).

On Thursday, February 06th 2014, the National Department of Education (NDoE) deposited K196,954,091.40 into Bank of Papua New Guinea to transfer the Tuition Fee Free (TFF) funds using its Kina Automated Transfer System to the three commercial banks to credit the bank accounts of 8,419 schools in all provinces. This is the first batch of schools that were paid their 1st TFF payments in 2014.

Head Teachers and Boards of Management (BOM) are jointly responsible for Fee Free Tuition money. This money must be spent based on a current the School Learning Improvement Plan (SLIP) and school budget, and through decisions made by the BOM.

Parents, guardians and community leaders are responsible for monitoring how the Head Teacher and BOM members spend the Fee Free Tuition money.

All Head Teachers and BOM Chairs must meet with their Provincial Education Adviser and District Education Adviser on a regular basis to have their documents examined to demonstrate they are using the Fee Free Tuition money correctly.

No school-aged child is to be sent away from a school for non-payment of any project fees. The maximum approved project fee is K200 per child.

NEB Maximum Fee Limits for 2014

The payment of Tuition Fee Free grants for 2014 to schools is based on the approved maximum fee limits set by the National Education Board (NEB).

Table 1: NEB Maximum Tuition Fee Limits for 2014 in Kina

School Level	NEB Maximum Fee Limits (K)	Gov't Contribution 1 st Payment (K)	Gov't Contribution 2 nd Payment (K)	Total Gov't Contribution (Kina)
Elementary (EP,E1– E2)	110.00	60.00	50.00	110.00
Primary (Grades 3 – 8)	297.00	149.00	148.00	297.00
Lower Secondary (Day)	990.00	495.00	495.00	990.00
Lower Sec. (Boarding)	1,650.00	825.00	825.00	1,650.00
Upper Secondary (Day)	1,089.00	545.00	544.00	1,089.00
Upper Sec. (Boarding)	1,650.00	825.00	825.00	1,650.00
Vocational (Day)	990.00	495.00	495.00	990.00
Vocational (Boarding)	1,430.00	715.00	715.00	1,430.00
Flexible & Open Dist. Educ.	110.00	110.00	0	110.00
*Approved Permitted Schools (one-off payment)	100.00	0	100.00	100.00
*Inclusive Educ. (one off payment)	200.00	200.00	0	200.00

Note: Parents will have to pay for other fees charged by Approved Permitted Schools.

Telefomin trainee teachers to get training in Enga

At least 10 students from Telefomin district in Sandaun Province will undertake primary school teacher training annually at the Enga Teachers College.

This follows a corporate sponsorship arrangement between the Enga Provincial Government and Telefomin Member, Hon Solan Mirisim.

Enga Teachers College Principal Michael Homingu said under the arrangement, Misirim would meet the necessary cost of purchasing the students study programs including tuition, boarding and lodging, fortnightly allowances and airfares.

Mr Homingu, who described the arrangement as an "extra ordinary" said the Telefomin MP personally brought the students in to enrol during the commencement of the school year.

"This corporate sponsorship arrangement is an extra-ordinary undertaking as such commitment and initiative by leaders are not popular as far as I understand," he said.

Hon Mirisin, who also brought his own children to enrol at the Highlands Lutheran International School in Enga, said the initiative was aimed at addressing teacher shortages which was affecting primary school student enrolment in his electorate.

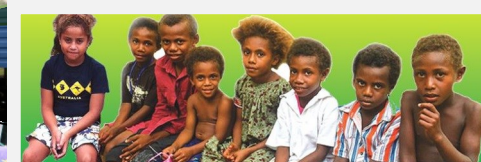
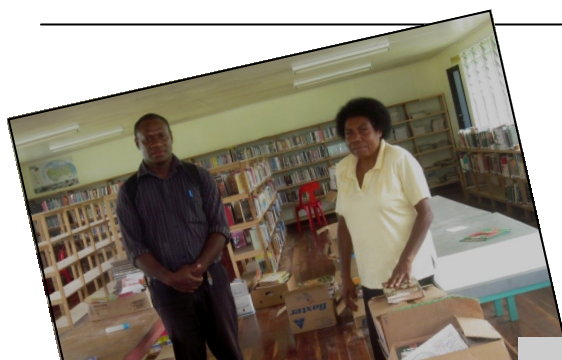
"It is part and parcel of my long term human resource development plan to increase student enrolment in my electorate," he said.

Hon Mirisim said he had chosen Enga Teachers College because of the province's successful human resource development policy under the leadership of Governor

Peter Ipatas.

Mr Ipatas said the MP had made the right decision to choose Enga Teachers College to train teachers as his government was willing to work with leaders and organisations that were interested in enrolling students under such arrangements to tertiary learning institutions in his province.

The college had its second batch of graduation last year with 121 students since its establishment in 2010. The college is currently enrolling more than 90 per cent of the students from within Enga while its boarding facilities are still under construction. The college would start enrolling students from around the country in 2016. ***



Education in random

Tuition Fee Free Education trials new component

THE National Department of Education will trial a new system called the Commodity Component of the Tuition Fee Free Education exercise this year .

The announcement was made on Tuesday 4th February by the Secretary for Education Dr. Michael Tapo during the announcement of the disbursement of K200 million of the cash component of the same program at his office in Waigani.

Dr. Tapo said the Commodity Component of the TFFE emphasis on the learning facilities for each child to compliment the government's decision to make TFF education funds more accountable, transparent, equitable and most importantly help the school boards to budget, spend and utilize the now subsidized parental fee component in a bid to produce measurable quality education.

The Commodity Component of the TFFE will involve the provision and distribution of learning kits to each student. The

kits will include materials such as school bags, pencils, biros, science kits, rulers, crayons and calculators up to year 11 and 12 students and other similar learning apparatus that parents spend on for their children during the school year.

A contract worth K40 million was awarded to Treid Pacific to undertake the distribution exercise.

According to Dr Tapo, quality education is based on standards and parents' fees based on the National Education Board (NEB) Maximum Fee Limit, alone is not sufficient to provide quality education.

He said other important component will include:

1. Resource materials, text books, library, science equipments, sports, etc.;
2. Quality teacher recruitment and continuous training and up skilling;
3. Building infrastructure for a conducive environment for learning & teaching;

4. Effective school administration joint monitoring and evaluation.

Dr. Tapo told reporters at the media conference that the awarding of the contract was based on a distribution and provision system through sustainable systems in public private partnership. This means Treid Pacific company will design a mechanism for the system to make sure the distribution of materials reach the beneficiaries and also ensure that accurate acquittals and acknowledgements data sheets are adequately furnished. ***

NCD schools probe

.... FROM PAGE 3

Dr. Tapo urged the service providers and contractors to pay particular attention to the direction and advice given by Mr Marape, who asked those concerned to take the matter to court.

Dr. Tapo pleaded with concerned parties to simply observe the Public Finance Management Act and the regulatory standards.

He said there is no money in 2013 and 2014 for capital work and other services done outside of the budget.

Dr. Tapo was very concerned that many contractors and service providers continue to ignore the fact that there is no allocation in the Education Department and the Office of the National Library and Archives' budget for infrastructure for 2013 and 2014.

He said the Department has not signed any contracts with individuals or companies now seeking for payments.

There has been no tender or awarding of contracts to anyone. Any individual, group and company who gather around the headquarters located at Fincorp building without formal approval by the Secretary for Education will be removed by the police. ***



Teachers Leave Entitlement a problem

LEAVE Entitlements for teachers throughout the country are becoming great concern every year.

The Department of Education receives a lot of complaints from the teachers at the end of every school year regarding leave entitlements.

Secretary for Education Dr. Michael Tapo made mention of the issue during a press conference at Fincorp Haus in Waigani in January this year.

Dr. Tapo said teachers due for leave every year are supposed to be given that privilege to travel home to their respective home provinces to spend their holidays with their families and loved ones.

Dr. Tapo said it is the right of the teachers to be given the leave entitlements after every two years and therefore the respective provincial education personnel must do their job to pay them.

He said it is not the work of the Department of Education to handle the teacher's end of the year leave entitlements claims as there are process and procedures put in place to follow.

These are solely the responsibilities of the provincial education divisions and their Provincial Education Advisors (PEA).



The Department of Education only helps out in facilitating the process. It is the Provincial Education Divisions who are given the functional powers to oversee and complete the whole process to the end.

The PEAs in the provinces are urged to update the teachers leave data and should know all the particulars of each individual teachers in their provinces. This includes the commencement of their next date of leave.

With the accurate records in place, the PEA then comes up with a budget and submits it to the Provincial Education Board (PEB) for their

approval.

Once approved by the PEB, the propose budget is then forwarded to the Provincial Administrator who then submits it to the Departments of Finance and Treasury in Waigani for funding.

"It is a right of the teacher to be given leave entitlement."

Dr. Tapo said in most instances the delays are caused by the provincial education divisions and strongly urged the PEAs to sort these issues diligently for the 2014 school year to end in a good note. ***



Pipeline newsletter is a monthly publication by the Policy, Planning, Research & Communication Division of the Department of Education.

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From the Secretary's Desk



In February this year at the Leaders' Summit, Dr. Michael Tapo outlined the National Department of Education's priorities for 2014 to 2017 where specific focus will be on these targeted areas:

1. Tuition Fee Free
2. School Curriculum
3. Improved Teacher Training (improved teacher quality)
4. Technical and Vocational Education and Training
5. Compulsory Education

6. Schools of Excellence
7. Exit of OBE and introduction of SBE

He urged all partners in education to work closely together with the Department to tackle the issues and constraints confronting the education sector and to assist in implementing the Government's policies to create a better pathway in quality education for all the children of Papua New Guinea.

Dr. Michael Tapo, EdD
Secretary for Education