

INTRODUCTION

The Scholars Unit at Nambale Magnet School (NMS), continues to provide critical support to orphaned and vulnerable children (OVCs) and other deserving learners, fostering academic and personal growth.

Currently, the unit comprises **64 scholars** - 32 boys and 32 girls - spread across different secondary schools nationwide. These scholars benefit from holistic support, including:

- Tuition sponsorships
- Mentorship
- Counseling, enabling them to overcome socio-economic barriers and achieve their full potential.

2024 has been a year of progress and reflection. Scholars have demonstrated resilience and determination in their academic pursuits despite challenges such as economic hardships, performance disparities, and communication gaps.

The Scholars Unit remains steadfast in its mission to nurture excellence and character, preparing these young individuals for brighter futures.



PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

The academic performance of our scholars in 2024 reflects their diverse capabilities:

High Performers:

I. John Paul Ouma (St. Mary's Kibabii High School): Consistently scored A-throughout the year, showcasing remarkable academic dedication.





2. Edna Nyarotso (Kipsigis Girls' High School): Demonstrated outstanding performance with an A in Term 1.

3. Dorcas Akuku (Kolanya Girls): Maintained high grades, including an A- and B+ across terms.



Students Facing Challenges:

- Several scholars experienced performance disparities, requiring additional academic support and mentorship.
- 2) Variability in results among students in Forms 2 and 3 highlights the need for consistent follow-ups and interventions.

KEY ISSUES REQUIRING ATTENTION

- I. School Transfers:
- 2. Regular visits to the schools for greater accountability

Challenges Encountered:

- **Post-Form 4 Transition:** Some students struggle to transition smoothly after completing their studies, leading to disengagement and a lack of direction.
- Performance Disparities: Uneven academic outcomes among students highlight the need for tailored support programs, including vocational training opportunities.
- Communication and Reporting Delays: Some scholars face challenges in maintaining timely communication and adhering to reporting protocols. Delays in submitting requisitions and report cards have also been observed.
- Peer Influence: Negative peer dynamics have occasionally affected students' behavior and focus, impacting their academic and personal development.
- Overlooking TVET Opportunities: Many young people aspire to white-collar jobs, often neglecting the valuable opportunities in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs. These programs provide practical skills and training that can lead to fulfilling careers across diverse industries.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Parental and Guardian Sensitization:
 Organize regular meetings with parents and guardians to align expectations, encourage active involvement, and foster a supportive environment for students.
- Academic Monitoring: Establish a structured system for regular academic followups, enabling early identification and resolution of challenges faced by scholars.
- Mentorship and Counseling: Introduce dedicated mentorship programs and counseling sessions to support students in building resilience, achieving self-actualization, and navigating personal and academic hurdles.
- Annual Alumni Meetup/Conference: Host an annual alumni gathering or conference to inspire current students, provide networking opportunities, and showcase the success stories of past scholars.



Scholars in Post-Secondary Institutions

A total of 45 scholars from the NMS community have transitioned to post-secondary institutions, comprising 25 males and 20 females.

Course Distribution

The scholars are pursuing a wide range of courses across diverse fields, reflecting their varied interests and aspirations. The distribution is as follows:

- I. Education: B.A. Education (Primary, Secondary, and Early Childhood Development)
- 2. Sciences and Technology: BSc Nursing, Computer Science, Math and Computer Science
- 3. Engineering: Diploma in Civil Engineering
- 4. Social Sciences: B.A. Journalism and Media Studies, Diploma in Social Work and Development
- 5. Hospitality and Tourism: Hotel Management, Diploma in Hospitality Management, Diploma in Tourism Management
- 6. Agriculture: Diploma in Agriculture
- 7. Project Management: B.A. Project Planning and Management
- 8. Architecture and Design: Architecture and Interior Design



Director Consulting with Scholar's



Institutional Representation

The scholars are enrolled in a variety of universities, colleges, and technical institutes, including:

- Universities: Moi University, University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, Maseno University, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Murang'a University, Pwani University, and Mount Kenya University.
- Technical and Vocational Institutes: Rigaria
 Technical Institute, Ol' Lessos Technical
 Training Institute (TTI), Coast Institute of
 Technology, Sang'alo TTI, and Kisiwa TTI.
- Medical Training Colleges: Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC) - Nyahururu Campus.
- Teacher Training Colleges: Ugenya Teacher Training College (TTC).





Key Observations

Transition Gaps: Eleven scholars (six males and five females) have not yet transitioned to higher education, indicating a need for targeted support during this critical phase.

Course Diversity: Scholars are pursuing a wide array of courses, including education, nursing, agriculture, and engineering. This reflects a commendable diversity in their interests and career aspirations.

Challenges in Locating Scholars: Efforts to track some scholars after they completed high school have proven challenging, highlighting the need for improved communication and follow-up systems.

Recommendations

Establish mentorship programs to support smooth transitions for those yet to join post-secondary institutions. Foster partnerships with technical and vocational institutions to provide accessible options for scholars.

Conclusion

2024 has been a year of growth and learning, characterized by both triumphs and challenges. The Scholars Unit has upheld its commitment to supporting learners holistically, addressing their educational, emotional, and social needs. As we move forward, we remain focused on creating a nurturing environment that empowers our scholars to thrive. With continued support, we are confident that 2025 will bring greater success and impact.

Meet the Team Behind the Scholars Program

Our Scholars Program thrives thanks to the dedication and passion of a team committed to nurturing the potential of every student. With a shared vision for empowering future leaders, this team provides unwavering guidance, mentorship, and support.



Rev. Evalyn WakhusamaFounder and Director of the Nambale Magnet School

Rev. Evalyn Wakhusama is the visionary Founder and Director of the Nambale Magnet School and an unwavering pillar of support for the Scholars Program. Her dedication to holistic education and community development has transformed countless lives, making her a cornerstone of the program's success.



Carolyne Olaka Social Worker

Carolyne Olaka leverages her extensive experience in education and youth development to ensure the program's success. Her strategic leadership and hands-on approach create a supportive environment for scholars. Dedicated to student growth, she tirelessly monitors academic progress to help scholars achieve their full potential.



Nicholas Masinde Teacher

Nicholas Masinde serves as a vital link between scholars and their families. His approachable demeanor and problem-solving expertise help align program goals with students' needs. As a key source of on-the-ground insights, Nicholas ensures effective communication and provides unwavering support to foster student success and engagement.

OUR PARTNERS



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Thank you for your continued support in nurturing the next generation and empowering their lives through education.