

Role of School Management Committees (SMCs)

Researched, produced, edited and presented by Alumaiya Doreen, in Madi language, for broadcast on local radio stations on – SEPT - 2015.

+++++++

BILLBOARD:

Hallo,

Welcome to this programme our school bringing our community together; to talk about how education can benefit everybody I am Alumaiya Doreen.

Today, we are going to talk about the role of school management committee in the wellbeing and development of the school.

A teacher tells us what the school management committee does in his school.

Clip: their work is to see how things are going on in the school does the school have enough classroom clean water and good toilets and look for money outside the school for developing the school by writing to ask for help.

A school girl tells us how the school management committee help girls in her school.

Clip: They write to those who can help then get the money and provide us sanitary pads these made us not to feel ashamed when we are in our periods.

All that will be coming to you in the fifteen minutes

CUE 1 (studio recording)

In the running of schools here in south Sudan school management committee are formed to oversee the wellbeing and development in the primary school but have you wondered what this people actually do in order to see to it that the school develop.

In Today's program we are going to hear from a teacher how this committee help his school to bring development for the wellbeing of the pupils and also the different between PTA and SMC.

Also the head girl and head boy of a school who are in the management committee will tell us how they are benefiting from the existence of the committee in their school.

lastly a parent whose child is in a school that has school management committee will tell us what she knows about the work of school management committee in child education.

And **But first let's hear from a teacher who knows what school management committee is about.**

(Field recording):

I am right now in St Patrick primary school children are for holidays the school is quiet, with me now is the head teacher of st.patrick primary school he is called Mr Drabuga Henry he has been a teacher for 16 years and his school has SMC so he will tell us what this committee does and who are in this committee. Let's hear from him.

Q1: Mr Drabuga what is the meaning of school management committee?

A1: these are group of people who come together to look for fund and oversee how the fund the school have can be used in the right way for the development of the school.

Q2: Why are schools having SMC?

A2: SMC are the eyes of the school for seeing good and bad and they then provide change in what they see for the wellbeing of the school.

Q3: How are this people in this committee elected?

A3: the head teacher calls a general parents meeting and those who see things in the education of community plus those in the government who are concern and good in giving advice about education then this people are elected among them.

Q4: who are this people in the committee?

A4: in this committee we have the chair person and his assistance all from the community a person from local government who deals with education and retired teacher plus other members, head boy and head girl but head teacher is the secretary of the committee.

Q5: But head girl and head boy are young why do you have to involve them in it?

A5: they are elected by the school pupils to look after the wellbeing of the pupils therefore they are the one who present what the pupils are lacking in the school like do they have good toilets are the teachers teaching well then they present it in the meeting and whatever they say is taken in to consideration.

Q6: what type of work do the school management committee do in school?

A6: their work is to see how things are going on in the school does the school have enough classroom clean water and good toilets is there respect in the school they also see how children are performing in the school and look for money outside the school for developing the school by writing to ask for help from NGOs and government.

Q7: How can the community help the hand of school management committee in development of the school?

A7: First they can help like if the school need more space for developing the school they can call the community and request for a piece of land and the chiefs will sit then give them secondly if may be a classroom collapse in school the community will be called to come physical to build it.

Q8: When do you have these committee meetings in school?

A8: The major one is once a term for the entire executive but there is monthly arrangement meeting for writing reports is there but the major one is three times a year plus the annual general meeting which is called at the end of the year as this is the time they account for the money that they have spent in the whole year.

Q9: What is the different between PTA and SMC?

A9: PTA is formed by teachers and parents in school and for one to be a member you must have a child in that school they see things in school like does the school have respect, they also follow parents who do not want to cater for their children and bring the kids back to school. But SMC write papers for asking NGOS and government for financial support for the development of the school after getting and using the money they then account for how they have spent it.

Q10: How is the relationship of your school and the community?

A9: the relationship of the school with the community is very fine that is why whenever we call them for any help they come without fail and give whatever help we request from them.

Q11: What type of change has this SMC brought for your school?

A11: One this school was not having a fence but this committee organise and now we have a fence also we did not have enough classroom but they work hard constructed a classroom bock and because they are close with us teachers they give us advice this made us to teach well and due to this the performance of the pupils also changed they also made sure we have a borehole now we drink clean water all because of begging.

RECAP:

You have just heard from the head teacher of St Patrick primary school he said that school management committee are the eyes that the school use for seeing bad and good, and they monitor funding and planning on school development like building new classrooms, toilets and providing clean water for school.

STATION IDENT.

Now let's talk to the head boy and head girl of stars of hope primary school.

CUE 2 (Field recording):

I am right now in stars of hope primary school with me right now is the 15 years old head boy Emmanuel and 15 years old head girl mercy I want to find out from them if they know what this committee does in their school since they are part of this committee in their school.

Q1: Mercy what do you people do in SMC?

A1: In this committee we are called and asked questions like are the teachers teaching well or how is life general in school are there things we have seen but are not well then we tell them so if they are not teaching well they call them and advise them to start teaching well this made us to pass well in school.

Q2: Emmanuel how is these committee helping you school children?

A2: they look for money in order to provide us with good toilets clean water and good classrooms desks and this needs a lot of money that our parents do not have so they write to NGOs like our borehole is drilled for us by NGO now we are drinking clean water in school.

Q3: Mercy since you are in this committee what did you do in the planning of capitation grand?

A3: We were called and our ideas was asked so we told them we are lacking class as the classrooms are not enough so when it is raining we run in the church these made them to start what was on the list with new classrooms now we sit in the class freely as we have enough space.

Q4: why Emmanuel is SMC important in school?

A4: SMC is important in our school because they make sure the money of the school and the money parents give is use in the right way they also make sure our teachers come to school to teach every day making us to pass very well.

Q5: Mercy what is SMC doing for girls in this school?

A5: They write to those who can help then get the money and provide us sanitary pads these made us not to feel ashamed when we are in our periods they also know that we need privacy so they have made our toilets separate with boys so we are happy about it because all that we need is there in school this made us not miss school.

Q6: Emmanuel you people are young and in this committee why?

A6: it is very important that we are in this committee because it is through us that the committee gets to know all our hardships in school if we were not in this committee they will not know what affects us in school as we are the eyes of the pupils.

RECAP: Those were the head boy and head girl of stars of hope primary school they said that their being in SMC made them to present all the issues that affect their education in school like making sure teaching is going on well if not they tell the committee then they call and advise the teachers accordingly this made them to teach every day making them to pass very well.

What do parents think about the work of SMC in schools let's hear from one parent.

CUE 3 (field recording):

I am right now in melekia east at the home of madam Jane I got her preparing lunch but I would like to find out from her if her daughter's school have SMC so be with me as speak with her.

Q1: Madam Jane in the school were you daughter is do they have SMC?

A1: Yes her school have management committee and in fact it is important for all school to have SMC so that they will be able to see how things are going on whether good or bad for the development of the school.

Q2: why have they started SMC in that school?

A2: It is formed so that they look after the money of the school, at the same time look for money for the school so that they make sure the pupils have good things like desk for sitting, regular teaching by teachers payment of teacher so that they will teach well those days when the school did not have SMC the school was not doing well pupil had no desk for sitting teachers were not teaching and it used to affect the performance of the pupils.

Q3: How does SMC help these children in school?

A3: This committee make sure girls are taken care of like now my daughter is a big girl so the committee look for money and buy sanitary pads and soap for the girls in school, teachers are teaching well and they don't miss lessons if they are not there the committee questions them tell them to change so this made children to pass well.

Q4: What are other things you see in that school that show that the committee is working hard?

A4: our children have good toilets they drink good water by then the classrooms were not enough but now they are even constructing new classrooms this shows the

money we give is used in the right way and we also see they are working hard for the development of the school.

Q5: How is the relationship of the school with the community?

A5: We are staying well with the school when they get money for development they call for parents and share ideas with us about how they have got that money and what they are going to do with the money and when they have done the work they again explain how the money has been spend that is why I say we are doing well with the school.

RECAP:

That has been Madam Jane a mother whose daughter goes in a school that has SMC she said her daughter has benefited a lot from the hard work of SMC like they have good toilets clean water and also children are performing well all because of the efforts of the committee when teachers don't teach the committee talks to them and advise them accordingly, so it is very important for all school to have SMC.

Station ID

CONCLUSION;

Today we have been talking about the role of school management committee in schools in it we heard from a head teacher who said that school management committee is the eye of the school that see what is good and bad and they also lobby for financial support and plan how they should use the money on. He also said SMC was able to bring things like clean water and build new toilets for the school due to their hard work.

And also the head boy and head girl of stars of hope primary school said that their being in the committee made the interest of the pupils to be met like they used to lack classrooms but they raised the issue in the committee meeting now new classroom block is being constructed .

Lastly we heard from A mother whose daughter was in a school that has SMC said that before this committee was formed children used not to pass well but when this committee is formed they advise teachers to teach daily so children started to perform well she added that SMC look for money and buy things like soap sanitary pads for the big girls in school which used not to be there.

INTERACTIVE MESSAGE with music bed:

“Remember this is your programme. We want to hear from you about how your education is going, whether you're a pupil a parent or a teacher we want to hear your problems and solutions. You can call and our presenter will answer your phone.

With all that we have come to the end of this programme our school.

Thanks so much for listening...I'm Doreen and this has been Our School brought to you by BBC Media Action.