

GOVERNOR's SPEECH DURING THE LAUNCH OF 2021/2022 EDUCATION
BURSARY, 9TH MAY, 2022 AT FORMER COUNTY HEADQUARTERS,
MANDERA

Hon. Members of Mandera County Assembly,

Members of the County Executive present,

Chair and distinguished Members of the Bursary Fund Board, Religious Leaders,

Civil Society Members Present,

Teachers and beneficiary students

Ladies and Gentlemen

Asalamu Aleykum Warahmatullahi Wabarakaatuhu,

Today we are here to officially launch the 2021/2022 Mandera County Bursary Fund in the amount of Kenya Shillings One hundred and Twenty Million (Kshs. 120,000,000.00) to support bright and needy students pursuing their studies in secondary schools, colleges and universities to access quality education.

Over the last five years, Mandera County Government has disbursed a total of Kenya Shillings Five Hundred and eighty two Million (Kshs 582,000,000.00) and this has positively impacted the education sector in Mandera County where the students from poor family have had access to education.

Our people depend on livestock as their main economic activity and due to the adverse effects of climate change resulting in long dry spells and invasion of locusts, farmers suffer great loss of livestock and farm produce causing them unimaginable suffering leaving many families vulnerable. Mandera County Government puts a high premium on education, with special attention to encourage bright students from poor and vulnerable families have a chance to pursue their dream careers.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This being the last bursary in my administration, it is evident that the fruits of devolution has been realized and it's my hope that the next government will also continue to support to ensure the children of Mandera County will have access to quality education.

Since the advent of devolution we have recorded a good progress not only in the education sector but also in other sectors like health, water among others.

Education is not devolved, it is the work of the national government to provide free basic education and ensure 100% transition from primary to secondary, but we were able to go extra mile and support through provision of bursary to students especially from low income families.

Since 2015, the funds that we have disbursed have supported over 81, 969 beneficiaries with far reaching benefits that impacted positively the education sector in Mandera and built the local capacity of our human resource needs. This Financial Year 2021/2022 a total 12,383 beneficiaries will receive bursary fund towards their studies. Allow me to announce that the beneficiaries of the bursary kitty today were vetted by the ward Bursary Committees and approved by the Mandera County Education Bursary Board in a fair and transparent way.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to take this opportunity to urge the school management to make prudent use of the funds and to benefit the relevant beneficiaries.

In 2019, The Girl Child Affirmative Action was launched to support and send the top students from our local schools to Turkey to study various courses like medicine, engineering among others. These girls will come and give back to the society.

Ladies and Gentlemen, let me congratulate 2021 KCSE students who posted impressive results which signals a clear progress as regards the overall examination performance. Over 1400 candidates scored C+ and above, meaning we are

admitting over 1400 students to universities across the Country. Among sub-Counties, Banisa Mixed secondary school was among the top 10 school in the whole nation. I would also like to thank teachers and parents for their sacrifice towards success of our students.

Lastly, as we are going for election, I want to urge the population of Mandera to be united and continue to live peacefully and harmoniously.

It is now my pleasure to declare 2021/2022 Mandera County Bursary Education Fund in the amount of Kenya Shillings One Hundred and Twenty Million officially launched.

Thank you.

God bless you and God bless Mandera County.