

**Speech for:** [REDACTED]

**Context:** Accreditation Celebration, Opening of New Library & Laboratory, and Partnership with [REDACTED] via Education and [REDACTED]

**Date:** [REDACTED]

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Greetings --

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] families and students,
  - Distinguished Friends and Guests,
  - Ladies & Gentlemen,

Thank you for the invitation to speak to this audience today. As the person tasked with finding solutions, resources, and partners to improve education in the Republic of [REDACTED], I am pleased to be here today knowing that [REDACTED] is doing exactly those things.

Nelson Mandela once said, *“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”* In a nation where a different type of weapon was used to destroy, education is the weapon we now use to build up. [REDACTED] future is bright because the past holds no power over tomorrow.

At the Ministry of Education, we recognize that a focus on tomorrow is critical and thus every day is another step toward realizing the objectives of [REDACTED]. In alignment with our Ministry objectives, and as a partner to [REDACTED], [REDACTED] is walking with us toward those objectives and we thank you.

- **We value the benefit of quality education** and appreciate [REDACTED] attention to quality education.
- **We value the benefit of partnership** and recognize [REDACTED] as a valuable partner with [REDACTED].
- **We value the benefit of sustainable solutions** and recognize that an accredited institution makes that a likely reality.
- **We value** institutions that focus on **the development of human capacity** and [REDACTED] is an institution succeeding in this objective.

We recognize that [REDACTED]' work towards an international and U.S. accreditation has been substantial.

We applaud your efforts because it means:

- a stronger institution,
- better educated children,
- future leaders impacted by this institution,
- and more effective citizens, both in the Republic of [REDACTED], and abroad.

[REDACTED] short history has no doubt had challenges and successes. Challenges can help to solidify a vision. Just as [REDACTED] has united around the objectives of Vision [REDACTED], you are united around your vision *“to impact [REDACTED].”* With challenges come growth, and the growth experienced by [REDACTED] reflects an institution moving toward an even brighter future.

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Participation\*, Wisdom\*, Humility\*, and Service\* are values that we appreciate. These values will make a difference within your school, our homes, our community, throughout the Republic of [REDACTED], this continent, and beyond.

As I close these brief remarks I want to:

- commend you for this accreditation milestone,
- I want to thank you for creating an environment with facilities that will enhance the learning experience for all at [REDACTED].
- And finally, I want to thank you for your investment into the education of our children and your gracious gift toward the national [REDACTED] Development Fund.

As our passport to the future, education will carry us into a global community of successful partners, friends, and neighbors. We value [REDACTED] as a successful partner, friend, and neighbor.

His Excellency recently said that, *"Your formal education has given you a valuable skill set to succeed in the world – but it will be the values you uphold, and the high standards that you set, that will distinguish you as the leaders our communities need today."*

Thank you for the high standard that you set, the values you uphold, and the skills you are developing. We are proud to be your partner and look forward to a bright future together.