

Beausang Bulletin

principal@beausang.org
beausangb@gmail.com
dev.beausang@gmail.com
studentsb@gmail.com

September ,2008

Volume 4 Issue 1

P. O. Box 1416
Karen - 00502
Nairobi
Kenya.

Phone: + 254 020 883 642
Mobile: + 254 723 751 535

School Motto: CARPE DIEM

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A Mission Statement is a concise declaration from an organization as to its identity, function, aims and values. Once it has been agreed to, the organization then develops detailed strategies for implementing this vision. Thus it is a foundational document and reference point, upon which other documentation is based.

At Br Beausang, the staff have been working on the formulation of this document at successive staff seminars since May 2006. As part of this process we examined the initial goals articulated by our founder, Fr Kevin McGarry, the mission statements of a number of schools operated by the Christian Brothers, and written proposals and suggestions from supporters. At our recent seminar in August, we managed to achieve consensus.

This Mission Statement had gone through a process of many drafts. One significant addition in the final draft was the insertion of the phrase "faithful to the vision of Edmund Rice". When this was proposed, I pointed out that the adoption of such a phrase implied a commitment to a significant set of values, so we then examined a summary of those agreed to several years ago by Edmund Rice schools in Australia. These were eventually adopted unanimously and wholeheartedly.

Dear Friends,

With profound gladness I share with you this edition of our bulletin publication. A common slogan goes that "Everything changes except change" and change is the ontological principle that defines and orders reality. We in Brother Beausang can testify as each new day comes with its own unique changes. On the 17th of September, we received the news of the appointment of Br. Francis Otieno as the new Principal taking over from Br. Laurence who has served the Centre for the last three years with zeal and inspirational spirit. In this Bulletin I have 'pasted' the official appointment letter of the new Principal and Deputy Principal respectively as issued by the District Leader for the Christian Brothers Br. Gerard Ellul. As we thank Br. Laurence for his invaluable contributions, we also congratulate Br. Francis and assure him of our support in his new responsibility.

Headmound Okari
Development Officer

Mission Statement

Brother Beausang Catholic Education Centre is an inclusive Catholic day school, faithful to the vision of Edmund Rice, serving the needs of young men and women from Embulbul and surrounding areas.

We welcome students of all tribes, cultures and religions from neighbouring communities, especially those who might not otherwise be able to access secondary education due to personal circumstances. Because of this we aim to keep our fees as low as possible, and actively seek sponsorships.

We engage the hearts and minds of young men and women. At the heart of the Centre is the belief that good teaching and learning can empower the individual to strive for excellence in all aspects of his or her life. Therefore we strive to offer the best education possible for our students.

We aim to ensure that students with special needs will be provided with appropriate educational opportunity, in partnership with families so that students can develop their skills and be prepared to accept the challenge of meaningful participation in society.

We strive to live justly in all our activities in a spirit of compassion and understanding. We seek to live in right relationship with God, ourselves, our neighbor and indeed with all of creation.



Mr. Peter Shanahan (incoming Deputy Principal) with Br. Francis (New Principal) and Br. Laurence

Schools conducted in the Edmund Rice tradition offer a distinctive Catholic educational philosophy. Vision and Mission Statements give expression to the distinctiveness of the educational ministry as it serves the mission of the Church in today's world.

There is no single component of the vision, mission and practice of a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition that determines its distinctiveness. The vision and mission have their heart in the mission and ministry of Jesus, the Catholic Church and the charism of Edmund.

HOLISTIC EDUCATION

Integrated development occurs through quality teaching and learning.

SPIRITUALITY

Each person's story is unique and sacred.

FAITH IN ACTION

Each person is called to respond out of a personal relationship with God.

COMMUNITY

A school forms a distinctive community.

PASTORAL CARE

The dignity of each person as a child of God is at the heart of pastoral care.

SERVICE OF OTHERS

Service of others is integral to being a follower of Jesus.

BEING JUST

Justice is integral to the vision of the Kingdom.

AT THE MARGINS

Edmund Rice, following Jesus, sought out the marginalized.

COMPASSION

Compassion is central to the life and teaching of Jesus and to the spirituality of Edmund.

STEWARDSHIP

God's gifts are to be shared justly and used wisely, as exemplified by Edmund.

REFLECTIVE PRACTICE

Reflective practice leads to personal and communal growth.

Basically we have agreed upon our core aims and values, which gives a solid foundation for planning and development. There is a great deal of meaning contained in it, and much reflection will be necessary to understand its implications. It is a very significant step, but only a beginning. It remains to develop educational goals, strategies and priorities.

The District leader of the Christian Brothers Br Gerard Ellul with Br. Francis and Br. Laurence after the announcement

From The Principal—Br. Laurie Collins The Future

Last Wednesday Br Gerard Ellul, the District Leader of the Christian Brothers in East Africa, announced the appointments of the new Principal and Deputy Principal of our schools for 2009.

Principal Br Francis Otieno cfc BED

Deputy Principal

Mr Peter Shanahan Dip Teach, BEd,
Grad Dip Ed Admin

The full text of Br Ellul's letter is printed elsewhere in this bulletin.

I take this opportunity of congratulating both Br Francis and Peter on their appointments. Br Francis, as our Deputy Principal since 2006, has been closely involved in all the development and planning that has taken place during the past three years, and so has detailed first hand knowledge of both our opportunities and challenges; he shares my vision and hopes for our future. Currently he is in Australia, having accepted an invitation to conduct some workshops at the Australian Catholic Principals Conference in Adelaide. He will take the opportunity to meet with a number of our supporters and sponsors, and to visit a number of Edmund Rice schools.

When Peter Shanahan visited the school last week, we took the opportunity to brief him on the developments that have taken place here, and also our plans for the future. His expertise and experience, particularly in educational administration and curriculum, will be a major advantage here.

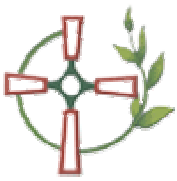
Staff Changes

Sr Aster Michael Gaber, a Capuchin Sister, has joined our staff on a part time basis for the remainder of the year. In addition to teaching qualifications, she has a Masters Degree in Educational Science from Rome. Next year she will be our Pastoral Care Coordinator on a full time basis. Marcus Wambua Nyamai BEd has replaced Vincent Galo

Volunteers

Francois Martinon (library)
Stefan Kreutner (Maths & PE)
Elector Aluoch (primary)
Benedetta Kimani (computers)





**Congregation of Christian Brothers
East Africa Leadership Team**

P. O. Box 4654 - 00506,
Nyayo Stadium, Nairobi, KENYA
Phone (254) 20 606452
Mobile +254 728033617
Email: gerardellul@gmail.com

.. walking with youth to fullness of life....

Wednesday September 17th 2008

To the school communities of Br. Beausang Catholic Education Centre,

RE: APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL AND DEPUTY PRINCIPAL FOR 2009

As you are aware, Br. Laurie Collins is completing his three year term of appointment at the end of November this year as Principal of Br. Beausang Catholic Education Centre. In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Christian Brothers and the Diocese of Ngong, the District Leader of the Christian Brothers in East Africa makes the appointment of the position of Principal and Deputy Principal. For some time I have been in dialogue with the rest of my leadership team and with Br. Laurie about the succession plan so that both the primary and secondary schools may continue to fulfil their mission of quality education in the long tradition of the Catholic education and the spirit of Edmund Rice, the founder of the Christian Brothers.

It is with great pleasure that I announce to you today that the new principal for 2009 will be Brother Francis Otieno, the initial appointment being for a term of three years. Br. Francis takes up this position with the experience of being in his third year as deputy principal of Br. Beausang Education Centre. He is a degree holder from Tangaza College and St. Mary's University, Minnesota and has good teaching experience in the areas of Religious Education and Geography. Br. Francis has the advantage of being a Kenyan citizen and fully in tune with the cultural, socio-political and educational context of these schools he will lead. Br. Francis has had international experience, having studied in Zambia, representing the Brothers at meetings in Rome and this month will be travelling to Australia to deliver workshops at the Catholic Secondary Principals' Conference. Earlier this year he was appointed to the East Africa Leadership Team for a term of six years. I, along with the rest of the team, have great confidence in his abilities to lead the schools into the future.

In addition to this exciting appointment, I also wish to announce Br. Francis' replacement as Deputy Principal. Mr. Peter Shanahan is an Australian currently working in Edmund Rice Secondary School Sinon, in Arusha, Tanzania where he is Head of Curriculum and Language. Mr. Shanahan comes to this new position with an outstanding record in Catholic Education in Australia. Firstly, he has worked in a Christian Brothers' Secondary College for thirty three years. Of this lengthy time, he was Deputy Principal for eight years and Principal for fifteen years. During this significant period of service he was on many Boards and Committees, including Finance, Building, Promotions, Special Education and Occupational Health and Safety. In my discussions with Mr. Shanahan, he gave me every assurance of his deep interest in working at Br. Beausang Education Centre and is very excited about the possibilities of being part of a leadership team to further the good work begun by Br. Laurie and to build up structures within the school to enhance its effectiveness.

Finally, I would also add that I am currently in discussions with another Christian Brother currently in Australia who may be available to work as a co-deputy Principal with Mr. Shanahan. If these discussions bear fruit, I will be able to make a further announcement in November. The addition of this Australian Brother would broaden the leadership of the schools further and bring more skills of management.

I am very pleased, indeed, to be able to make this announcement to you all today and I hope that you see in these appointments the best way forward to serve the students and families of Embulbul. I ask you to give your full support to Br. Francis and Mr. Shanahan when they take up their new appointments on January 1st, 2009.

Yours truly,

Br. Gerard Ellul
District Leader
Christian Brothers East Africa

From Tr. Sella

I have watched the school grow a human way. Its great effort has transformed the lives of many students and given them constant smiles. Thanks to the school and sponsoring programme at large but also teachers. If I take myself as an example through the workshop and seminars held, much has been achieved. It's not only the human nature that has been revived through the seminars, but we have also learnt that patience does not only work as a dependant virtue that moves on together with responsibility, cooperation and respect for one another. Thanks to the principal who has constantly retained an open door for all and through his confidence, we have learnt to speak our opinion of course responsibly. I wish to encourage the Beausang community that together we can move the clouds to the sun as the sun hopes to brighten us all. "Carpe Diem."

EDMUND RICE NETWORK KENYA

This is a group of men and women bonded together with the love of Jesus Christ in the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice whose spirituality inspired many and carried many people to the height especially the poor and the marginalized and the disadvantaged in the society.

The network was established in Kenya with the good inspiration of Brother Martin, a Christian brother. Members from various projects being run by Christian Brothers: Ruben Centre, Otiende lang'ata and Embulbul came together in unity and discussed the future. Br. Tom Kearney, the immediate former District Leader, took the would be members through the history of Edmund Rice and the Brothers. The members then saw the need for deepening their relationship, spirituality and understanding in the light of Edmund's spirit and that of Jesus. There has been unwavering support from the DLT led by Br. Gerald Ellul which has inspired the members to meet after every fortnight to share their experience and pray. On the 6th of this month a committee of eight members met at the Dimese Centre Karen and came with vision and mission statements, Core values and Objective. For this Bulletin I'll only append the vision and mission statement.

Vision

To be sensitive to the needs of our time and celebrate life in tune with God's will.

Mission Statement

We members of the East African Edmund Rice Network, Kenya, enriched with abundance of life and guided by the spirit of Edmund Rice, seek to deepen our understanding of God in harmony with creation and one another through consistent prayer and sharing; constantly interacting with and empowering the less privileged; promoting justice and a world free of suffering.

Mak'Ondigo Johnfisher

BROTHER BEAUSANG PRIMARY AS A HOME AND A SCHOOL.

I have witnessed our school develop from one stage to the other within a span of 3 years since Br. Laurence took over from Fr. Kelvin the founder of our school.

God has blessed us with many sponsorships and we do receive many visitors from overseas who usually help our needy and vulnerable children.

My first plan of action as the head teacher for primary was to establish good working relations with everybody. We intended to build such relationship first of all to work as a team and a community governed by the same rule.

To enhance teamwork we must live together with the clear conviction that the other one is not an enemy but an asset that is empowered to work freely. Secondly we ought to look at the good side of our pupils in order to assist them fully to achieve their goals in their lives. Thirdly we need to own our responsibilities and our school in all aspects. Our fellowship with others binds us to a commitment to them, which must be expressed in concrete action. Praying for one another is very excellent but it is never enough. Actions of real service are an essential aspect in our school as any brotherhood worthy of its name needs a set of 'service'.

To our out going Principal Bro. Laurence we are very grateful for the work well done. May our mighty God bless you abundantly and may you live long. We wish you all the best in life and we will miss your presence in future.

To our in coming principal we assure you we are ready to work together as a team and take our school to the next stage.

Tr. Eva Njagi



Tr.Sella in class

MY EXEPERIENCE IN BRO.BEAUSANG

For the eight years I have been in Beausang, I have really gained a lot academically and spiritually. The school has grown to be a good place than it was. The teachers have really supported us and shared their knowledge with us. Whenever I will go after am through with my primary school, I will always remember my teachers especially teacher Lydia and Brother Pascal. When Br. Paschal came, I was really indiscipline but he showed me the right way and I got back in the track.

At first I knew nothing if any, I could neither read nor write but now I have really changed. I have known the value of education.

I want to thank the Bro.Beausang community for the support they have given me and the other students.

God bless you all.

Kamau (Std 8)



Tr. Eva with some primary pupils admiring a Tv and DVD Donated by Greenvale Australia.



Kamau

Sports

We uphold sports as a critical aspect of our curriculum and we appreciate the efforts made to promote the sports department in our Centre in areas like Football, Rugby and others. Thanks to the two football Academies; Young Talents Academy and CAFA Academy. Be assured of our support.

Compiled and Edited by Headmound Okari.
headmoundokari@yahoo.com

This edition of Beausang Bulletin is sponsored by Trinity College Perth, W.A. We much appreciate their generous support.