

UMOJA  
MUEHLBAUER  
ACADEMY  
SCHOOL  
EXTENSION  
CONSTRUCTION  
PROGRESS  
REPORT

February 14

2020

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This document is presenting the outcome of Third and Final Phase of  
school extension construction project involving Finishes

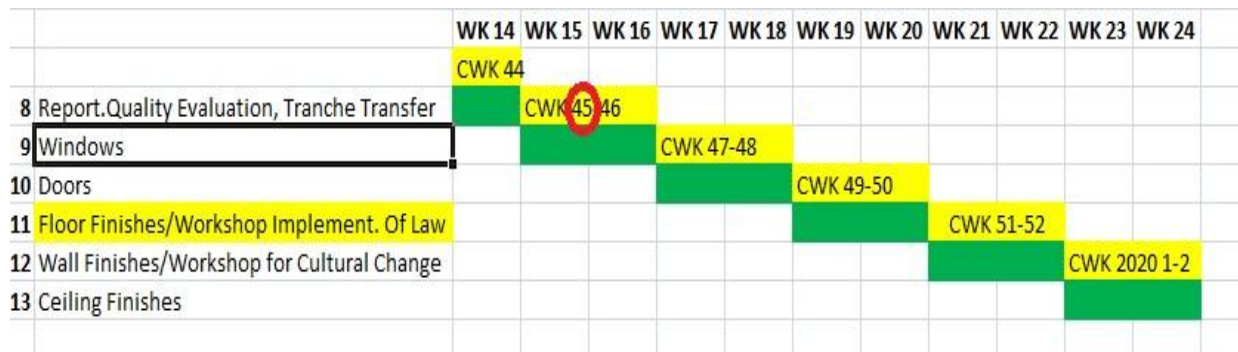
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## THIRD AND FINAL PHASE –FINISHES- REPORT OF UMOJA MUEHLBAUER ACADEMY EXTENSION OF FOUR NEW STANDARD CLASSROOMS WITH AN OFFICE ANNEX INSTALLED WITH CUBICLE METALLIC LOCKERS

### FINISHES PHASE

The school Third Phase construction preparation works began on Thur 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2019 which is Calendar Week 45 of Year 2019 and exactly right on time as per the Schedule of Works' Calendar Week 45. Initially the foreman had a sitting with the management to plan on order of materials and wholesale deliveries were made to construction project's store in right batches. See Fig 1 on Work Schedule.



**Fig 1:** Schedule of Works; Finishes Phase began right on time on Week 45

Actual work commenced on Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Nov, concrete filling up of open gaps between the roof and the wall top begun for two days preparing the walls for plastering, see Fig 2.



**Fig 2:** Concrete filling up on open gaps between the roof and the wall top

The following day on Tue 12<sup>th</sup> Nov, external walls keying ensued for 27 days. It attracted a lot of labourers as it involved drilling wall tactically in linear manner between block

layers and refilling with mortar leaving a fine and appealing finish. Keying went hand in hand with external Gebo finishes as well as cobras all around the construction project's external walls.



*Fig 3: Drilling of walls in a linear manner between the block layers*



*Fig 4: Fine lines of keying after applying mortar, the keying also went hand in hand with external gebo plastering.*





**Fig 5:** *External walls cobras worked on by masons*

Earlier on Fri 8th, metallic doors and windows were ordered for construction to be ready in time for fixing and paving way for wall plastering. The order was delivered 9 days later on Sun 17<sup>th</sup> Nov and immediately fixing began for three days. Metallic windows was preferred to glass windows because of high cost of repair and maintenance as pupils keep breaking glass windows often prompting the school management in the past to change all windows in old standard classrooms to metallic ones.



**Fig 6:** *Metallic doors and windows delivered on Sun 17<sup>th</sup> Nov and fixing began immediately for 3 days*

Electricity wall trunking and piping was initiated on Tue 19<sup>th</sup> Nov for 4 days paving way for internal walls plastering; also once the metallic doors and windows have been fixed.



*Fig 7: Electricity trunking and piping initiated to pave way for internal wall plastering*

Eventually all was set for internal wall plastering and masons were grouped into two working on a class each. On Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov the activity began for another two weeks for the whole project. It elicited a need for increased labour and enough were sourced and hired.



*Fig 8: Internal walls plastering was undertaken for two weeks.*



On Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Nov, a workshop on Cultural Change was conducted at Umoja Muehlbauer Academy attended by men, youth including warriors, religious leaders and women as well as local leadership and spearheaded by AMREF trained specialists. The essence of the workshop was to sensitize men and the male youth to be gender champions and agents for transforming the society to a gender sensitive one and offering equal rights to all gender without any form of discrimination. The workshop was held for two days. Day 1 involved training and deliberations and Day 2 practical activities were offered to articulate the training deliverables. Feedback groups were formed to undertake activities in their residential zones and follow up review shall ensue in Mar 2020.

The essence of the workshop was to elicit men-based workshop to achieve rethinking processes among men who are strongly attached to the traditional way of life and to create a positive ripple effect of the gender message across the society and in the spirit of leave no one behind, and anchoring intervention on SDG 5(Gender Equality) and SDG 10(Reducing inequalities).



**Fig 9:** Workshop on Cultural Change held in Umoja Muehlbauer Academy on Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 2019 and Thur 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 2019.

On Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Dec, floor finishes ensued for 7 days. The masons started by hacking floors in about 2 days in order to create the right needed grip between the to-be-applied fresh mortar together with foundation slab base. Eventually mortar was poured and immediately nil spread on top when wet and the process was taking a day per classroom block as nil and concrete can mix only when wet and to ensure a homogeneous floor finish, the work must be concluded within a day.



**Fig 10:** Floor finishes

Finishes general works continued to ensure an appealing outlook as envisaged in building and construction standards. On Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, verandah and pavement setting began all around the construction project. Foundation setting of two courses of blocks was laid all around followed by hardcore filling, smashing and blinding taking 7 days. There was two days break of Christmas and Boxing Day being 25<sup>th</sup> Dec and 26<sup>th</sup> Dec respectively. Works resumed on 27<sup>th</sup> Dec mixing concrete ratios in the day and the following day laying of verandah and pavements slab ensued and its finishes concluded after 5 days and this brought construction works to end.



**Fig 11:** Verandah and pavement construction



On Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Dec, labourers were hired to grit walls, windows and doors off concrete dirt to leave an even surface preparing the stage for paint work. This activity took 3 days to complete. Paintwork order was made earlier on 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec and all materials and equipment were already delivered in store ready for use.

On 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2020, paintwork contractor a specialist hired for the work, never hesitated not to celebrate the New Year's Eve and embarked on his work with his crew of labourers. The activity continued for 6 days to conclusion.



**Fig 12:** Paintwork began with undercoat of White paint followed by Cream paint for internal walls, Orange for external cobras, Black for wall keys, verandah round poles and bottom skirting; Sky Blue for metallic doors and windows.

Locker Room which was supposed to be installed internally with metallic lockers, was midway during the construction converted to a full office room with door and window as well as electricity installations because members of staff of the school alleged that the current office administration bloc is too congested and a need to consider the locker room for an office bloc that will house part of the staff and school operations. However, the verandah space in front of it was considered to host the metallic lockers like for the case of other schools; bulk locker sets are normally installed on classrooms external walls at the verandah. This was the case killing two birds with one stone and it served the purpose. There was no significant rise in cost because previous phases left enough materials that could be used to make any much needed modification without the fear of cost. Also the speedy implementation of the project completed much earlier than its intended timeframe saved slightly on labour cost thus it could address any minimal cost flare up.

On Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec, 60 metallic cubic lockers were ordered and they were delivered for installation at the project on 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020. They were painted metallic Grey. The lockers will be used by Grade 7 and Grade 8 pupils in need of more space to store their bulk valuables safely.



**Fig 13:** 60 cubicle metallic lockers under construction at contractor's site, delivered and installed in school

On Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020, final touches were done on electrical wiring and lighting and completed.



**Fig 14:** *Electricals cabling and installation final touches*

Site cleaning clearing debris of construction works and ground leveling in sloppy earth surfaces near the verandahs were leveled by filling up murram and soil, it brought the project to a successful and official completion.

The school reopened from long end year holidays on Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020, and the new classrooms were assigned to Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8. The new office bloc was allocated to School Bursar and Secretary leaving the main office bloc for teaching fraternity only to run curriculum and co-curriculum responsibilities.







**Fig 15:** Complete project of Four New Standard Classrooms with an Office Annex installed with Cubicle Metallic Lockers. The project looks so appealing with good workmanship.

On Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020, the new school project was officially launched in attendance of Ulrike Thönniges of Tatort - Straßen der Welt e.V., Ministry of Education Samburu East Sub County Director Mr. Bernard Nduati Kinuthia, Samburu County Director of Teachers Service Commission (TSC) Mr. Stephen Kamanja, Kenya National

Examination Council (KNEC) Samburu East Sub County Director Miss Alice Marisa Ene Kanyini being the senior most guests among the many that were sent invitations but could not manage sending apologies because of the New Year's many start up affairs like taking children back reporting to schools among other reasons. Umoja Muehlbauer Academy parents, the fraternity, Umoja Uaso Women Group, religious leaders and members of the public from the local community attended marking the special moment with the school.

A lot of interactive and creative entertainments were demonstrated by Umoja Muehlbauer Academy pupils and Umoja Uaso Women Group.

Very good speeches were made and it was very encouraging to note from Ministry of Education officials that Umoja Muehlbauer Academy is the only private school in Samburu East Sub County that survived the guillotine of closing down schools that do not meet minimum standards set by the ministry in Year 2019. They noted the school growing standard infrastructure, professional and registered teachers with Teachers Service Commission Personal Identification Numbers, enough books inventory, growing enrolment, good hygiene and sound management.

The Chief Guest Ulrike Thönniges made an honour to the people in attendance and Ministry of Education officials and narrating the long road of a thousand miles that they began with a single step with Rebecca Lolosoli the Founder and Chairlady, Umoja Uaso Women Group, when they first met in Germany in company of Ise Stockums Chairlady Freundeskreis Umoja – Friends of Umoja e.V. It culminated to many development projects in Umoja Uaso Women Group and the academy realizing the dream of extending the school with standard classrooms. It was a very special moment and the Chief Guest was eventually led to launch the new project after the meeting event by cutting ribbons with a pair of scissors and flashing open the curtains of the plaque reading the contents.

She was later led to a location of planting a tree as a symbol of the momentous day concluding the launch. A very big luncheon was held in Umoja Camp where guests had the pleasure for eateries and soft drinks; socializing and celebrating the mega achievement of the school. School children alike enjoyed special meals for the day at school because the camp area had no enough space to accommodate all.







**Fig 16:** Umoja Muehlbauer Academy launch Four New Standard Classrooms with an Office Annex installed with Cubicle Metallic Lockers

On Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020, Workshop on Implementation of Law was conducted in Umoja Muehlbauer Academy by a team of two human rights and gender lawyers and one experienced gender specialist. It was attended by women and girls as well as key men of the community.

In bid to eradicate women and girls oppression the workshop highlighted education through a knowledge-attitude-behavior model for enhanced awareness campaigns and community sensitization sessions. Also interfacing such interventions with the provision of an enabling environment for policies and laws prohibiting gender based discrimination. Hence a need of a multi-sectoral approach across the value chain through referrals between and among players and actors within the gender inclusion space; hence education and Implementation of laws and policies governing cultural malpractices

against women intervention to mainstream; Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH), Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), Early Childhood Marriages, FGM as well Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM)



**Fig 17:** Workshop on Implementation of Law held in Umoja Muehlbauer Academy on Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020

On project completion, it is noted that the ceiling was not installed because of advise by Public Health and Ministry of Education Quality Assurance officers suggesting that metallic roofing in classrooms are very neat and that the area being hot, there is a need for air circulation in classrooms and with ceilings in place it will inhibit that, there is also

possibility of bats inhabiting inside the ceilings tops as witnessed in many institutions thus it will destroy the ceilings in the long run because of waste deposits accumulating with time causing pungent smell and risks of bats carrying diseases that can be transmitted to humans. The management therefore decided that they will invest the ceiling allocation by ordering 40 desks to furnish the new classrooms. The quantity though is half what is needed but limited by available budget.

The management ordered 40 desks and advanced a deposit payment but they are yet to be delivered. The new classrooms however have desks from old temporary classrooms of classes that have been shifted to the new blocs. However, they are not enough and some may not be in good shape because of tear and wear. The new desks ordered come with durable metallic frames and hardwood timber. Each desk will seat two pupils hence a capacity of 80 pupils.

## **EXPENDITURE**

Please see an outline of expenditures and check if they tally with your records.

**NB:** See Appendix 1 –UMA Extension Finishes Accounts Report – on MS Excel format

## **FULL WORKSHOP REPORTS**

Please see attached the following:-

1. Appendix 2 – Report on Workshop on Cultural Change
2. Appendix 3 – Report on Workshop on Implementation of Law

## **CHALLENGES**

1. Waso Ng'iro River floods due to end year heavy rains reached construction project's store and affected a number of cement bags
2. There was weak electricity connection during the reporting period because of technical faults in the nearby transformer making it difficult for onsite welding activities eliciting the need for welding contractors to carry materials from construction store and undertake the work in their workshops. This brought the concern of materials left after the welding works because the management could not trust the contractor will be honest enough to return them back to project's store.
3. The electrician contractor was very slow affecting progress of the project. It was cited he is the only electrician in town and very overwhelmed with many work he undertakes from different clients. He however managed to conclude his work just before the official project's launch.



4. School fencing is a need for safety and security now that more valuable infrastructures are up and around the school compound. At the moment, the school fence is incomplete and damaged and unauthorized people could come in through any direction.

**NOTE**

1. As per the Schedule of Works, Sundays have been marked as a break day but actually the Foreman had continued to work in all Sundays without a break, which had saved time of implementation on Finishing Phase.

*With kind regards*

*Thomas Lolosoli*

*Manager*

*Umoja Uaso Women Group/Umoja Muehlbauer Academy*