

School heads held over UNEB fees

MUKONO

By Henry Nsubuga

Police in Mukono district are holding four school administrators who allegedly solicited money from Senior Four and Six candidates for registration with Uganda National Examination Board (UNEB), but failed to do so.

The suspects are Tom Omwijeho, the Lorretoh Senior Secondary School headteacher; Daniel Baganzi, Martin Emito and Francis Ochuku, directors.

The school is located at Nantabuulirirwa village in Goma division, Mukono municipality.

Mukono division Police commander Rogers Sseguya, confirmed their detention and said they would be charged with obtaining money by false pretence.

Mukono municipality senior schools inspector, Olivia Bulya, together with the law enforcement team, stormed the school on Friday, after getting a tip from one of the parents of the candidates who was suspicious that their children had not yet been registered.

"We have contacted UNEB officials who have confirmed that they have received payments for only 10 senior four candidates from this school.

Six senior six candidates are not yet registered and 29 senior four candidates have also not yet been registered," Bulya explained.

Nsimbi (left) leading the directors of Lorretoh Senior Secondary School, to Mukono Police station. Photo by Henry Nsubuga



According to the UNEB calendar, the official closing date for registration of candidates was on June 30, while late registration ended on July 30.

However, Bulya promised to contact UNEB to consider registering the students because they confirmed they had paid the registration fees in first term.

"We want the school administrators to bring back the students' money and we help them register so that they do not lose out," Bulya said.

After getting the information about being unregistered, the students cried

saying their future will be saying their future would be ruined if they do not sit the exams.

"We paid the money on time and some of my colleagues were sent home to collect the fees. We are so surprised to hear that the administrators had swindled our money and we are now not registered," said one of the candidates.

James Nsimbi, the municipality senior law enforcement officer, said they ordered the school to close and students were sent home as the administrators sort out the matter.

"There is no need of keeping the students at school when they are not sure of writing their UNEB exams. Let the parents be patient as we work together to find a solution," Nsimbi said.

One of the directors, Ochuku, said they got a challenge when the number of students dropped, which made it hard to keep the school operating.

"We have been working hard to see that we get the money and have the remaining candidates registered, but in vain," he said.

'Modernise preaching to more youth'

The Busoga diocese Bishop, Paul Naimanhye has advised priests to always modernise methods of preaching in churches in order to attract more youth. Naimanhye said the current system of preaching largely remains unchanged, with elderly, while the youth prefer to join churches again churches face a challenge to preach to the elderly. He said many are baptised during a ceremony of 48 youth in the Church in...