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Why Budaka transferred 45 primary teachers in govt schools

BY MUDANGHA KOLYANGHA

BUDAKA: Authorities in Budaka District have transferred 45 teachers across government-aided primary schools to improve academic performance and address staffing imbalances.

The shake-up, effected at the start of the first academic term, was confirmed by the Acting District Education Officer, Mr Richard Wako, who said the move aims to bridge teaching gaps in several schools.

"The move was meant to balance the teaching staff in some schools. There are schools that have more teachers, whereas others have few. This was basically to create balance," Mr Wako explained.

He added that the district undertook the transfers to enhance academic performance and tackle administrative

challenges.

Budaka District has more than 900 primary school teachers in government-aided schools. Mr Wako said the transfers take immediate effect.

"It's true the department has made transfers of teachers to different duty stations. Teachers are aware that at the end of every year, there must be transfers effected. This is not new to them; transfers are normal," he said.

Mr Wako noted that the majority of the transfers were made following requests from teachers on various grounds, including long distances to work stations and lack of accommodation.

"The transfer of the majority of the affected teachers was based on their own request. As a department, we had to consider their requests in line with the guidelines," he said.

He explained that other factors con-

sidered included the length of time a teacher had served at a particular station, public interest, and performance.

The department has completed the transfer list and dispatched letters to the affected teachers. Those dissatisfied with the decision have been granted two weeks to petition the department for reconsideration.

"All transferred teachers are required to report to their new duty stations with immediate effect," Mr Wako said.

According to the district's latest Primary Leaving Examinations perfor-

mance report, 4,601 candidates (85.4 percent) achieved Division One to Four, while 742 candidates (13.8 percent) were ungraded (Division U) and 46 candidates (0.9 percent) were absent (Division X).

The division breakdown shows 245 candidates (4.5 percent) in Division One, 1,713 (31.8 percent) in Division Two, 1,507 (28 percent) in Division Three, and 1,136 (21.1 percent) in Division Four.

In 2024, the district registered 5,858 candidates, of whom 279 (five percent) passed in Division One, 1,778 (31 percent) in Division Two, 1,781 (30 percent) in Division Three, 900 (15 percent) in Division Four, 1,044 (18 percent) in Division U, and 66 (1 percent) under Division X.

Mr Wako cautioned parents against interfering with the transfer process.

"Parents should not sabotage the pro-

gramme by rejecting transferred teachers. Whoever does so risks arrest and being charged accordingly," he warned.

He said the transfers followed thorough on-spot assessments conducted by the district's education directorate in line with guidelines issued by the Ministry of Education directing local governments to strengthen education standards.

"The district in the past couple of years has been performing poorly at the national level, and the overall performance is still not satisfactory. We need to revise our methods to improve results, and that is why the education directorate is making these transfers before engaging parents to play their role," he said.

He added that some teachers had overstayed at particular stations without making significant impact, necessitating the reshuffle.

900

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