

MMUSA/CAN

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Abusua Kese

Introduction

– By Dr. Kingsley Boateng (Acting President)

Koforidua Senior High Technical School, is a Senior High School located in Koforidua in the Eastern Region of Ghana. Formally Koforidua Secondary Technical School (or K`dua SecTech), it is the fourth of its kind in Ghana established in 1967 by the then head of state Dr. Kwame Nkrumah to produce science and technical biased students for Higher Educational Institutions in Ghana and the sub-Saharan region.

Over the years, the school has seen very little improvement in infrastructure despite the astronomical growth in enrollment population. For instance, the dining hall which was built to accommodate a population of about 600 students and staff has lost its capacity as the population of the students have increased significantly with current enrolment above 2,500 students. As a result of the use of the facility far above its capacity, coupled with lack of regular maintenance over the years, the building had deteriorated to the extent that it had become a health hazard (see pictures at <https://www.mmarimammausa.org/projects/>).

The alumni are currently constructing a new multipurpose assembly hall christened “MPAH”, a two storey edifice with a seating capacity of over 3000 students, to accommodate the ever-increasing student’s population and to serve other important purposes. But this project estimated to cost about GHS 10.0 million or \$1.5 million, may take about 20-25 years to be completed, depending on the availability of funds. It was therefore imperative that additional funds be mobilized to renovate the existing dining hall and to prevent it from further deterioration and avoid any potential health dangers/crisis. To

this end, the 1992 Class (MM92) took the initiative to bring together several year groups and stakeholders including MMUSA/Canada, MM96, MM89-90, and MMUK to raise funds to renovate the existing dining hall. The project was undertaken between 2017-2018 at a cost GHS 161,000 or \$36,000 with MMUSA/Canada as the major contributor with GHS 97,000 or \$21,500. Additionally, MMUSA/Canada supplied 75 Tables at GHS 28,127 (GHS 375/Table), or \$6,250.

Other projects undertaken by MMUSA/Canada in recent times include the supply of 100 Metal Based Mono-desks in 2021 at the cost of \$4,500, Sponsorship of the National Science and Maths Quiz (NSMQ) in 2021 at the cost of \$3,200, and the Supply of Equipment for the Robotics Club in 2020 at the cost of \$2,000. Current projects under consideration include proposed renovation of the washrooms in all dormitories, establishment of Robotics Center, establishment of NMSQ Training Studio/Lab, and construction of pavements to link the dining hall to the dormitories and classrooms, in addition to the MPAH project.

It is obvious from the listed potential projects above that we need to raise substantial funds on a yearly basis to support the school. This may require the establishment of an endowment fund (money set aside and invested to earn revenue to fund some type of charitable activity). We therefore propose that a portion (30 – 40%) of our annual fundraising should be deposited into a targeted \$100,000 endowment fund over the next 5-10 years, which may be subsequently invested and the profits used to fund ongoing projects.

To all Mmarima Mma, let us arise and build. MMUSA is a charitable 501C3 organization, which means that all your donations are tax deductible. *Ketewa biara nswa*. For more

information, visit <https://www.mmarimammausa.org/>. God richly bless you in advance for your desire to support.

2021 Objectives and Activities Report

In 2021, our main objectives were to build on the successes of the previous years to grow the association and to raise funds online to support our charitable activities despite the Covid-19 pandemic. We were able to respond to the urgent appeal of the school authorities for classroom furniture by supplying of 100 Metal Based Mono-desks at the cost of \$4,500. In addition, we continued our Sponsorship of the National Science and Maths Quiz (NSMQ) to participate in the national competition in Kumasi at the cost of \$3,200.

Below are pictures of the donated classroom furniture.



Proposal for The Establishment of Center of Excellence


The MMUSA/CANADA executives had a meeting on August 7, 2022 to address among other issues the establishment of the NSMQ Laboratory. We concluded that we are able and willing to fund 100% of the renovation of the dedicated facility. However, we do have couple of requests that we hope the school would be able to accommodate -

- That the Lab will be set up as a Center of Excellence to house both NSMQ and Robotics.
- In addition, that the Center will be named after Nana Afedzi Mensah VI (aka "Nana"), our noteworthy, trustworthy and visionary past President who passed on in March 2022. Hence, "Nana Afedzi Mensah VI Center of Excellence".

Nana Afedzi Mensah VI Center of Excellence will be a Lab (or a learning center) set up for a wide variety of projects that will highlight student creativity, innovation, and problem-solving ability on a daily and on teamwork basis. It will in effect provide guidance, encouragement, intellectual challenge, and unique exploratory opportunities to students who love Science, Math and Robotics.

MMARIMA MMA USA/CANADA wishes to memorialize Nana. As the first president of the MMARIMA USA(MMUSA), he successfully established the Association with United States Internal Revenue Department as a Non-Profit Organization to benefit from its Tax Exemption status. Under Nana's able leadership, MMUSA/CANADA has the following accomplishments to be proud of -

- Formed a symbiotic relationship with MMARIMA MMA CANADA.
- Organized the first MMUSA re-union in New Jersey in 2017 to kick-start our yearly Fundraising for SecTech.
- Renovation of the school's Dining Hall in 2018/19.
- Supplied Laptop and other much-needed equipment to the Robotic Club in 2020.
- Donation of 100 Mono desk to the School in 2021, and
- Sponsored NSMQ team in 2021 and 2022.



The above is only a snapshot of Nana's relentless quest to do more for his beloved Alma Mater. If approved, MMUSA/CANADA intend to provide the requisite Plaque of Remembrance for the said "Nana Afedzi Mensah VI Center of Excellence".