OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



COMMISSIONING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA BASIC SCHOOL CANTEEN

ADDRESS BY:

PROFESSOR NANA ABA APPIAH AMFO VICE - CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

> TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022 UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

Registrar of the University,

The PTA Chair,

Present and Past Board Chairpersons,

Management Board Members, Parents

and Guardians,

Staff, Students and Alumni,

Members of the Press,

Invited Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

All other protocols observed.

Good morning.

It gives me great pleasure to be back here for this commissioning of the University Basic School Canteen project, an idea conceived as far back as 2016 when I was Chairperson of the Governing Board of the Basic School. The euphoric countenance worn on the faces of stakeholders present at this ceremony justifies the importance of the canteen and its ancillary benefits which will go a long way to provide the needed educational support to promote teaching and learning.

Established in 1955, the University Basic School continues to add value to its academic operations as well as improve on services which contribute to the wholistic development of our young ones.

The University Basic School is not only committed to intellectually equipping students to take up global leadership roles but it is equally concerned about providing the right nutrition for our growing children. As the saying goes "... a sound mind lives in a sound body" and a good diet, which this canteen promises, is obviously critical to their growth and development. I applaud all whose efforts have culminated into the realization of this vision.

An Implementation Committee constituted under the leadership of Professor Elsie Kaufmann worked tirelessly to put all the needed documents together to commence the initial process of approval by Management.

I commend all past Board chairpersons after my tenure including Dr. Jemima Anderson and the present chairperson, Dr. Gloria Ansa who sustained the momentum and ensured that this dream sees the light of day.

It is worthy to note that this canteen project which includes a kitchen and a 500-capacity eating area was wholly funded by the PTA. Sincere appreciation to both past and present parents and guardians (*including myself*), for the support in raising the need funds for the execution of this project.

I applaud the efforts of past PTA chairpersons; Mrs. Perpetual Osei Bonsu and Reverend Acheampong Boakye Yiadom and the current PTA chairperson, Mr. Ishmael Edjekumhene and his executive for their resilience, providing the needed administrative support and having oversight responsibility for the construction and completion of this beautiful project.

The supervisory role played by the Headmaster, Mr. Alfred Codjoe-Allotey, his deputies, Mrs. Christina Armah and Mrs. Evelyn Lartey, a former Deputy Head of the Primary Department are also worth noting.

To the contractor on the project, DEMYKS, the technical team at PDMSD and the Director Arc. Charles Kofinti, thank you for a job well done.

I also acknowledge the efforts of the fund-raising committee with Dr. Vera Fiador as chairperson and Mr. Eric Sifa, secretary, who raised funds from individuals and institutions including Prudential Bank and Nestle, Ghana Limited.

Our dear parents, teachers, and pupils; I am sure we are all excited about the canteen. The canteen comes to curtail the numerous visits to the night market, exposing our children to the ravages of the weather and other associated risks of moving outside the premises of the School. It will also save pupils from health-related problems which arises from eating contaminated meals.

I urge the Management Team to make good use of the facility and adhere to the highest level of professionalism in managing the canteen. Endeavour to maintain high standards of hygiene protocols, and good maintenance culture.

With the commissioning of this eatery, students, parents and teachers will be assured of nutritious meals and snacks prepared under hygienic conditions which are required for healthy growth of our children, served on time and in a conducive environment.

On this note, it is my singular honour to announce that this multipurpose canteen building is duly commissioned.

Thank you.

Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo Vice-Chancellor July 19, 2022