

TIYENDE PAMODZI *Let's Walk Together*
GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL MALAWI
P.O. Box 80, Dedza, Malawi



From: Task Force Tiyende Pamodzi Girls Secondary School, Malawi
Nazareth Foundation Malawi, the Netherlands
GF Goeldner Foundation, Germany

To: Donors and prospective donors of Tiyende Pamodzi Girls
Secondary School

Date: November 16th, 2020

SUBJECT: Update November 2020
TIYENDE PAMODZI GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL



Dear all,

We are happy to be able to share with you that we have received the official permission from the Ministry of Education to open our school for Form 1 on January 4, 2020. On Thursday November 12 2020, we had a meeting with the Education Division Manager (EDM) of the Ministry of Education. We talked about the aim of our school, and the practicalities necessary for opening in January.

Inspection

The EDM, Mr. Nkhata, sent a team for inspection the next day, Friday November 13, 2020. Six officers, each from a different department of the Ministry of Education, came to make an assessment within his or her own field. We gave them a presentation about the aim of our school and all the aspects concerning management of the school, the construction so far and the planning. We made a tour through the buildings and on the grounds. They also inspected the borehole. The inspectors asked many questions. Then they sat down together to confer. Afterwards they gave their findings. In short:

- x The construction of the buildings is of good quality.
- x They were very pleased we did everything according to the government regulations.
- x We are allowed to open the school with 1 class of Form 1 students in January 2021.



visit by inspectors of the Ministry of Education

Teachers

During both meetings we talked at length about the management and teachers for the school. The Ministry of Education promised to look for teachers that fit with our aim to give girls and young women a better future by adding projects that will help them build a better life in the village for themselves and their children. The head teacher will be of the highest academic grade and female. The government is going to pay the teachers.

Construction

The construction of the two staff houses is going according to plan. They have to be ready at the end of December for the headteacher and the deputy headteacher.



Fundraising

Since our last update we have had good news from several donor organisations. They decided to assist our Tiyende Pamodzi Girls Secondary School with funding for construction. This means that in December 2020 or January 2021 we will be able to start construction of two more blocks of two classrooms each. Most probably we will be able to start construction of the 4th block too, which means we hope to reach our total of 8 classrooms by the beginning of the next academic year, in October 2021. We are very grateful to these donor organisations!

We continue to raise funds for more staff houses (the Ministry of Education has been emphasising strongly to build more staff houses as soon as possible) and the science and library block (also compulsory for a Secondary School).

Solar electricity

The Spanish organisation Eki Fundacion will install a solar system to provide electricity for all the school buildings. They came to visit at the end of October. They have inspected the connections to the electricity as already installed in the buildings. They will ship the necessary equipment from Spain in December. They hope to come to Mganja in March 2021 to install the system.

More furniture on the way

We already have furniture for the buildings that have been constructed so far. We will start furnishing the school in December to be ready for opening. A friend of our project from the Netherlands has taken the initiative to send more second hand furniture from an abandoned Dutch school to Malawi. Two containers are already at Antwerp harbour waiting for shipment to Mganja. There seems to be enough furniture and school materials for the whole Tiyende Pamodzi Girls Secondary School.

Information meetings

This month we had several meetings. We had a Task Force meeting, a meeting with the chiefs and a meeting with the chairperson of the Village Development Committee. We also organised a first information meeting for prospective students at the school grounds. We informed the people who came and answered all their questions. Afterwards we showed these parents and prospective students the buildings.

So far everybody coming to see the school is very impressed! We keep working together with the community to develop this project.

Covid-19 situation

The prevalence of Covid-19 in Malawi is at present stable and very low. The number of new positive cases in the country fluctuates between 0 and 5 per day. We will continue to do our work within the restrictions as upheld by the Malawian government.

We are very grateful to all of you for working together with us to fulfil the dream of a Secondary School for the girls and young women of Mganja, this poor, agricultural region where many girls live in poverty without an outlook on a better life for them and their families.

Thank you all very much. Together we are making this dream come true.

Kind regards,

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