

What Jabez Elementary & Junior High School Meant to Me



INTRODUCTION

Mr. Penpeh Gbean

I am Penpeh Gbean who joined Jabez Elementary & Junior High School in 2022-2023 academic year. I am the vice principal and a junior high Mathematics teacher. I obtained an Associate of Arts Degree in Education from the Liberia International Christian College (LICC) in 2016 in Ganta, Liberia. In 2009, I also obtained "C" Certificate from Zorzor Teacher Training Institute in Lofa County, Liberia. I am presently working towards Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics at the Liberia International Christian College.

GREETINGS

Greetings to all members and chairpersons of both local board and the USA board for their tireless efforts for providing learning opportunities for Liberian kids. Jabez Elementary & Junior High School is one of the many schools in Ganta, Liberia that has modern school buildings, modern auditorium, modern latrines facilities, electricity, student's library, computer Lab for students, Agriculture program for students, electronic tailoring machines, work grant for needed students, a very big campus for students play and scholarship for talented students. The school also has eight acres of oil palm for future endowment fund.

Base on the above mentioned facilities and learning opportunities, I classified Jabez Elementary & Junior High School as one of the best school in Ganta. I envision that in a decade from now, Jabez Elementary & Junior High School will be a full self-sustaining high school in Liberia. However, in order for this dream to come to reality, requires the collective efforts or participations of committed teachers, PTA, local school board and the USA board. Therefore, I strongly vow to commit myself to positively work with Jabez Institution to bring glory and positive change.

I encourage every teaching staff of Jabez Elementary & Junior High School to work hard academically and pedagogically with commitments so as to accomplish this dream. We are here to make a difference meaningfully. We are in Jabez School not just for a pay or salary but to be sensational and transformational for the betterment of the institution, the dream of Jabez Elementary & Junior High School and the Liberian nation. Teachers should be the role model with good integrity and every academic and outside curriculum activities we do shall lead the students to Christ.

CHALLENGES

I also express to both local and the USA boards that there are challenges in the school regardless of the facilities and learning opportunities. The issues of trained and qualified teachers in the areas of tailoring department, computer lab and senior high instructors if we deem it quit expedient to elevate the school remain the challenge. There is a need to train committed teachers who will serve the institution in the areas stipulated above so as to overcome these challenges for improvements and meeting our goals of Jabez Elementary & Junior High School.

The reasons are: most of the tailors in Liberia prefer to work in their shop for earning more money at the end of the month than school stipend or salary and training computer teacher as well as some senior high teachers in major subjects such as Mathematics, Sciences and Language Arts areas will enable Jabez School to have her own committed teachers who will serve the school permanently and those teachers will develop more passion or commitments. This will give rise to the school in a decade from now.

Finally, let us all strongly and collectively work hard towards the dream of Jabez Elementary & Junior High School for improvements, positive transformations, integrity, Christ connectedness and making Liberia a better place.

VPI/Teacher Penpeh Gbean