

SPEECH BY THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, PUBLIC SERVICE AND HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT, DR. JANE KERE IMBUNYA DURING EXCELLENCE AWARDS FUNCTION AT LUBAO SECONDARY SCHOOL ON 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY, 2026

*“The heights of great men and women are not reached by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night.”* Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Your Excellency the Governor of Kakamega County,  
Your Excellency the Governor of Bungoma County,

The Deputy Governor,  
Honourable Members of Parliament present,  
Honourable Women Representatives,  
Members of the County Assembly,  
The County Commissioner,  
Distinguished guests,  
The Principals and staff,  
Parents and guardians,  
And most importantly, the dear students:

*Good morning.*

It is with great honour, humility, and immense joy that I join you today at Lubao Secondary School for this Academic Excellence and Motivation Function, held under the theme: ***“Promoting a Culture of Excellence and Empowering Learners for National Development.”***

This is not just an ordinary school event. It is a powerful reminder that the future of our nation is being shaped in

classrooms such as these: through learning, discipline, resilience, and the dreams of young people.

Education remains one of the greatest equalizers in society. It is the foundation upon which opportunities are built, lives are transformed, and nations are developed. When we invest in the education of our children, we invest in the strength, stability, and prosperity of Kenya.

**Dear students,**

I want you to understand that excellence is not reserved for a few. Excellence is born from commitment, consistency, and the courage to keep going even when the journey is difficult.

Each one of you has immense potential. Within this school sit future doctors, engineers, teachers, entrepreneurs, public servants, and national leaders. The question is not whether you are capable; the question is whether you are willing to work

diligently, remain focused, and believe in your God-given abilities.

This ceremony is therefore a celebration of effort, determination, and aspiration. It is meant to encourage you to dream boldly and to pursue greatness with discipline and integrity.

**The learners being recognized today,**

I congratulate you. Your hard work is a shining example to your peers. And to those who may not be recognized this time, I encourage you: do not lose hope. Your season is coming. Success is a journey, not a single moment.

***Teachers and school administration,***

I commend you for your dedication and sacrifice in nurturing talent and shaping character. You are not only teaching

subjects; you are building the human capital that will drive our national development.

*Parents and guardians,*

Thank you for standing with your children and supporting their education. Your encouragement at home strengthens what is taught in school.

As Government, we remain committed to supporting initiatives that promote academic excellence, mentorship, discipline, and

values-based leadership among our young people. Kenya's transformation depends on an empowered, educated, and responsible generation.

In conclusion, dear students, I urge you to remain determined. Let your background never limit your dreams. Let challenges never weaken your spirit. With education, discipline, and faith, there is no limit to what you can achieve.

**May God bless you all, and may God bless the Republic of Kenya.**