### KANYAKINE ALUMNI OLD BOYS

# ARISE EWSBRIEF Issue No. 07 March 2025



# David Ruchiu

 To: The Esteemed Members of the Kanyakine Old Boy Alumni Association
From: The Chair, Mr. David Ruchiu & the Entire Exec Membership
Date: March 2025

#### Dear Old Boys/Members,

This is to welcome and introduce you with humility to the Kanyakine Old Boys Alumni Association....karibuni mboys! As the Exec of the the Alumini, we are most honoured to have been entrusted with the leadership of this Alumini Association where the past meets, the present and plans for the future! Our shared past in the esteemed Alma Mater shaped our future and established us in different spheres of influence and impact. The Alumini brings you on board to interract with the treasured past amongst friends, having the fun of yesta years as "mboys" yet influencing the present and the future for us and the Alma Mater! We have a share collective vision is to establish this association as a vibrant, impactful, and inclusive network that uplifts its members and our Alma Mater.

This 'Newsbrief' is to invite and welcome you as a valued member of the Alumini and to induct you into our new theme of **Kanyakine Boys Arising Again** (KBAA!!). I confirm that the Executive Committee has been working diligently behind the scenes, crafting a robust framework to revive, strengthen, and propel our association to greater heights where the greatness of yesta years are relieved again! Kanyakine Arises Again

Welcome aboard 'mboys'!

#### Key Milestone 1: Our Alumni Website

Kanyakine Old Bpys Association has a new home and identity.....the <u>website</u>, <u>www.kanyaxalumni.org</u>. This platform will strengthen our connections and enhance our alumni networking and be the springoard for supportingour Alma Mater..

Our Vice Secretary, Felix Mutai and Vice Chair, Morris Mureti dedicated their time and expertise to this project of the Alumini website....to them kofia chini! Many other have rendeed financial resources and expertise and we wish to dully appreciate their sacrifice and deication as we build a thriving alumni community.

#### Key Milestone 2: Online Registration Form

The website has been hosted, and official emails are operational. Additionally, the online registration form is NOW operational to enable seamless collection of alumni membership details. This is therefore to implore on all to join the Alumini!!

Join the thriving community of Kanyakine High School alumni through <u>our Online Membership</u> <u>Registration Form</u>—a gateway to reconnecting, contributing, and shaping the legacy of our alma mater. Built on a foundation of resilience, growth, and excellence, our alumni network fosters mentorship, professional networking, and meaningful collaborations that impact both alumni and current students.

Becoming a member of the Kanyakine High School Alumni Association is more than just reconnecting—it's about belonging to a powerful network of changemakers, mentors, and trailblazers who are shaping industries, influencing communities, and uplifting future generations.

By registering through our Online Membership Registration Form, you gain access to:

- Exclusive Networking Opportunities Connect with fellow alumni across diverse professions and industries.
- Mentorship & Career Growth Tap into a wealth of experience from successful alumni who are eager to guide and support you.
- **Giving Back with Impact** Play an active role in improving our alma mater's academic performance, infrastructure, and student success.
- Alumni Events & Reunions Stay informed and participate in exciting events, reunions, and collaborative projects.
- **Recognition & Legacy** Leave your mark by contributing to meaningful initiatives that will inspire generations to come.
- The legacy of Kanyakine High School is built on resilience, excellence, and the unwavering spirit of its alumni. Now is the time to be part of something bigger—a thriving alumni movement that empowers, connects, and transforms.
- **Don't just be a former student**—be a lifelong member of greatness! Sign up today and let's shape the future together.
- Kindly as a matter of urgency, do Register as a member of Kanyakine Alumni Association and <u>register 'Naarua'!!</u>

#### Key Milestone 3: Official Online Communication/Connection

To fast-track the new era, the online communication has now been enabled through new official emailing address. Kindly utilize the emails as below;

#### Official Alumni Emails

- 1. Chairman: <a href="mailto:chairman@kanyaxalumni.org">chairman@kanyaxalumni.org</a>
- 2. Vice chairman: vchairman@kanyaxalumni.org
- 3. Secretary: tom@kanyaxalumni.org/ secretary@kanyaxalumni.org
- 4. Vice secretary: <u>vsecretary@kanyaxalumni.org</u>
- 5. Treasurer: <a href="mailto:treasurer@kanyaxalumni.org">treasurer:</a>
- 6. Organizing Secretary: <u>o.secretary@kanyaxalumni.org</u>
- 7. Welfare: welfare@kanyaxalumni.org
- 8. Diaspora: <u>diaspora@kanyaxalumni.org</u>
- 9. Kanyax Patron : patron@kanyaxalumni.org
- 10. Membership Inquiries: join@kanyaxalumni.org/ join link

For general inquiries kindly reachout to the Hon Secretary Mr. Tom Mogusu, at <u>tom@kanyaxalumni.</u> org for compilation.

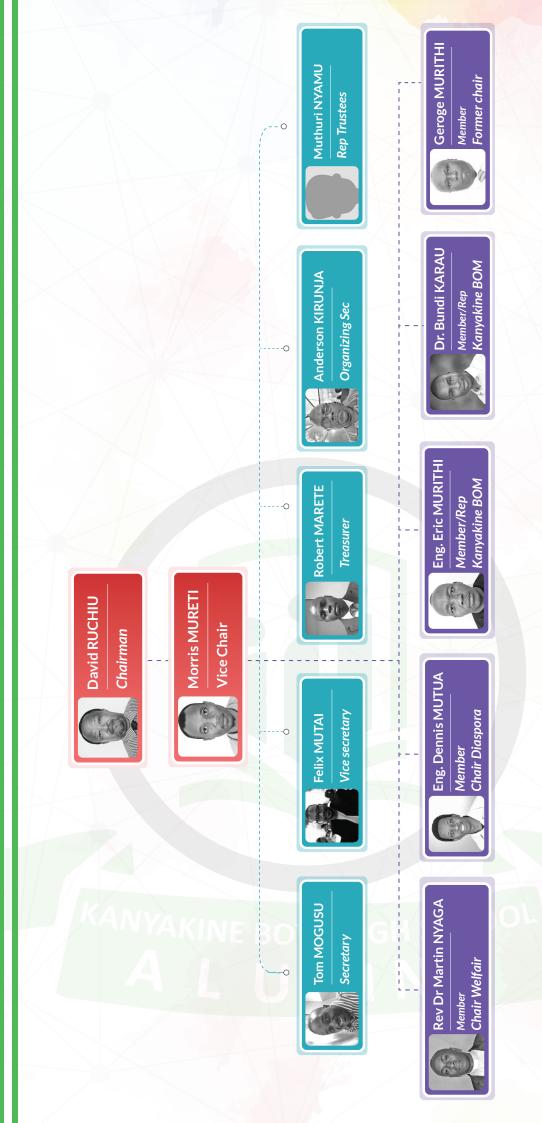
#### Key Milestone 4: Official Alumni Governance Structure

To foster efficiency, accountability, and inclusivity, we operate under a well-defined governance structure: Executive Committee:

- 1. Chairman: Mr. David Ruchiu
- 2. Vice Chairman: Morris Mureti
- 3. Treasurer: Robert Marete
- 4. Secretary: Mr. Tom Mogusu
- 5. Vice Secretary: Felix Mutahi
- 6. Organizing Secretary: Anderson Kiruja
- 7. Trustees Representative: Mr. Muthuri Nyamu
- 8. Member/ Rep to BOM: Eng. Eric Murithi
- 9. Member/Welfare Committee Chair: Rev. Dr. Martin Nyaga
- 10. Member/Rep to BOM: Dr. Bundi Karau
- 11. Diaspora Affairs Chairman: Eng. Denis Mutua
- 12. Former Chair: George Murithi

This structure enables us to address critical areas of development, governance, and member welfare with clear responsibilities and accountability.

# **KANYAKINE ALUMNI** EXECUTIVE ORGANOGRAM 2024/2025



#### Key Milestone 5: Official Alumni Trustees

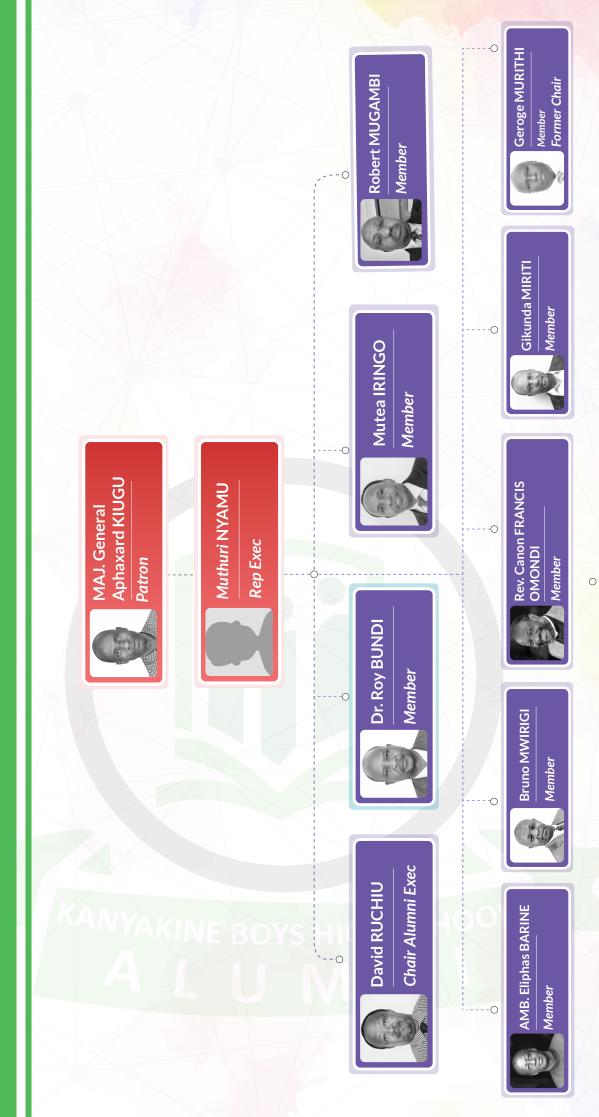
#### Board of Trustees/Council:

The Board of Trustees plays an advisory and strategic oversight role in guiding the associa towards achieving its mission.

- 1. Pardon: Maj. Gen. Aphaxard Kiugu
- 2. Member/Cordinator: Muthuri Nyamu
- 3. Member/ Chair of Exec: David Ruchiu
- 4. Member: Rev. Canon Omondi
- 5. Member: Amb.Eliphas Barine
- 6. Member: Dr. Roy B. Mugiira
- 7. Member: David Gikunda
- 8. Member: Robert Mugambi
- 9. Member:Mutea Iringo
- 10. Member: Bruno Mwirigi
- 11. Member/Former Chair: George Murithi



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024 / 2025 **KANYAKINE ALUMNI**



#### Key Milestone 6: Strategic Decisions

The Kanyakine High School Alumni Association is committed to fostering a dynamic and impactful alumni network. As part of our strategic vision, we have established Chapters and Professional Cohorts to enhance engagement, mentorship, and professional growth among members.

# **1** Chapters:

Chapters are regional & international groups of Kanyakine High School alumni, fostering localized networking, mentorship, and collaboration. They enhance alumni engagement, support initiatives, and strengthen connections within specific geographical areas. Objective: Strengthen alumni connections globally and locally.

- Milestone: Formation of regional chapters in key cities and international locations where alumni reside.
- Impact: Enables localized networking, support systems, and targeted alumni-driven projects.

### **2** Professional Cohorts:

Professional Chapters are industry-specific groups within the Kanyakine High School Alumni Association, fostering career growth, mentorship, and collaboration among alumni in fields like Law, Medicine, ICT, Business, and Engineering objective: Foster industry-specific mentorship, career growth, and professional collaboration.

- Milestone: Launch of cohorts based on professions such as Law, Medicine, Engineering, Business, ICT, and Education.
- Impact: Enhances career opportunities, mentorship programs, and industry-driven initiatives among alumni.

#### Milestone 6.1: Regional Chapters

#### 1. Nairobi Chapter: Covering Nairobi and the rest of Kenya. Nominated Conveners;

- o Robert Mugambi-chair/convener
- o Thomas Mogusu-secretary
- o Felix Mutai

<u>Join Cohort WhatsApp Group</u> <u>Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register</u> <u>Email: nairobic@kanyaxalumni.org</u>

#### 2. Meru Chapter: Representing Alumni members in Meru and other Mt. Kenya counties. Nominated Conveners;

- o Nimrod Guantai -chair/convener
- o -Cliff Munene-secretary

#### Join Chapter WhatsApp Group

Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register Email: meruc@kanyaxalumni.org

#### 3. Diaspora Chapter: Uniting alumni abroad. Nominated Conveners;

- o Eng. Denis Mutua Chair/convener
- o Nicholas Meme -secretary
- o Prof. Kinoti Meme
- o Felix Kimathi
- o Gregory Butcher
- o Kennedy Lairangi

#### Join Chapter WhatsApp Group

Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register Email: diasporac@kanyaxalumni.org

#### Milestone 6.2: Professional Cohorts

1. Medicine, Public Health, and Related Careers

#### Nominated Conveners;

o Dr. Bundi Karau- Chair/Convener

o Joseph Muriuki Marete - Secretary Join Cohort WhatsApp group -

Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register Email: medicine.ph@kanyaxalumni.org

- 2. Political, Theology, Legal Careers and Consulting Services Nominated Conveners;
  - o Rev Canon Omondi Chair/Convener
  - o Hon. DMK Kiogora Secretary
  - o Hon Mburi Muiru
  - o <u>Rev.Dr</u>. Martin Nyaga
  - o Muciimi Mbaka

#### Join Cohort WhatsApp Group

Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register Email: political.theology.legal@kanyaxalumni.org

- 3. Business, Entrepreneurship, and SMEs Nominated Conveners;
  - o Festus Gitonga-Chair/Convener
  - o Karani Muthuri- Secretary

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4. Academia, Education, and Research

#### Nominated Conveners;

- o Prof. Thuranira- Chair/Convener
- o Dr. Karau- Secretary

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- 5. Media, Communication, and Technology Nominated Conveners;
  - o Muthuri Nyamu- Chair/Convener
  - o Thomas Mogusu-Secretary

#### Join Cohort WhatsApp Group

Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registra-

tion Form to officially register Email: media@kanyaxalumni.org

6. Engineering, Manufacturing, and Technical Careers

#### Nominated Conveners;

o Eng. Eric Murithi- Chair/Convener

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# 7. Agriculture, Natural Sciences, and Innovations Nominated Conveners;

- o Eliphas Mutuma- Chair/Convener
- o Roy Bundi- Secretary o David Ruchiu
- Join Cohort WhatsApp Group

Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register

Email: agriscience@kanyaxalumni.org

- 8. Military, Police, Diplomacy, and Public Service Nominated Conveners;
  - o Eric Nyaga- Chair/Convener
  - o Robert Murithi Kamtano-Secretary
  - o Dickson Munene
  - o Robert Mugambi

#### Join Cohort WhatsApp Group Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registra-

tion Form to officially register Email: <u>security.diplomacy@kanyaxalumni.</u> org

#### 9. National government /county government

- o Eric Nyaga Chair/Convener
  - o Robert Murithi Kamtano Secretary

#### Join Cohort WhatsApp Group

Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registra-

tion Form to officially register Email: ng.cg@kanyaxalumni.org

10. Financial Services, Banking, and Accounting

#### Nominated Conveners;

- o Robert Marete-Chair/Convener
- o Jacob Kithinji- Secretary

#### Join Cohort WhatsApp Group

Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register Email: finance@kanyaxalumni.org\_

#### 11. Hospitality, Hotels, and Tourism

#### Nominated Conveners;

o Magambo-Chair/Convener

Join Cohort WhatsApp Group Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register Email: hospitality@kanyaxalumni.org

#### 12. ICT, and Perfoming arts

#### Nominated Conveners;

- o Morris Mureti-Chair/Convener
- o Silas Mwenda-secretary
- o Felix Mutai
- o Vinnie Baite

#### Join Cohort WhatsApp Group,

Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register Email: ict.pa@kanyaxalumni.org

#### Webinar to be held every month

These cohorts and chapters are designed to enhance alumni engagement, create professional networks, and address shared challenges within specific regions and industries.

#### Milestone 7: Where is our Alma Mater

Below is the gathered situation of where Kanyakine High school is today!





Our Alma Mater is a sorry shadow of what it was in yester years! The stellar academic performance of the 80s/90s is long gone and is heard only with the alumni gatherings or old villagers. The Kanyakine High that was an extra-curricular powerhouse that topped Drama Finals at National Level, is hard to imagine. In summary, today Kanyakine is seen as the surest example of "from grace to grass in Meru County" and has the infamous adage of being "the sick school of Meru"! The academic performance has been dismal and there is no plausible strategy that has been applied to turn around the performance. In the recent National Exam results, Kanyakine attained the following mean score of 5.2705 in 2024, and 5.440 in 2023 lagging behind Ntharene Day and Yururu Girls.....schools that used to bench back academics with Kanyakine in awe!!

Since the 90s, Kanyakine has been bedeviled with shaky leadership at both Principal level and BOM; this arguably has turned our once great school into a jinxed below average school that is a career death trap to young Kenyans who get admitted there! The current Chief Principal, Mr. Simon Njagi came from a performing background and was expected to do a turn around. However, no notable academic performance has been registered in 4 years, and all stakeholders feel he needs to vacate. No solution is in sight! The BOM has equally been unable to offer any turnaround strategy, and they await the principal and the teachers to mid wife performance. Though the BOM is comprised of great professionals, their strategy is unclear and shrouded in the systemic weaknesses of the school. This has consigned the school in limbo and hopelessness!



Our great alma mater that hosted students from all over the country was unfortunately turned into a local school with no aspirations of performance. Workers are all from the neighborhood and arguably related! Though the teachers are competent, they too are related and from around with little motivation as they are made to carry the blame of hopeless performance! Unlike other schools of its size, the teachers have homes within 10 Km radius and have no motivation to linger in the school to inspire students. Former comrade schools like St Mary's and Nkubu High have teachers from afar who teach without the incumbrances of being locals! The results are like day and night in comparison.



Students are great but do not have the attitude of excellence that defined Kanyakine of yester years! They arrive in Kanyakine with average grades and meet a laid back attitude with no expectations to be excellent. As a result, they don't study hard and many visitors see them having a "college attitude"! The dismal results over the years make them have no reasons to aspire excellence. This needs a crisis level intervention!



The above is dire and needs immediate attention from all people of good will! Every caring old boy is invited to first be a member of the Alumni and then contribute on how Kanyakine can turn around. Kindly follow the following steps and then share your thoughts and opinions on Kanyakine.

Step` Register as an Alumni Member at <u>Register link</u>

Step Share your thoughts on Kanyakine turn around
2 here.... turnaround@kanyaxalumni.org

# Know an old 'mboy'!

	Name	Aphaxard Muthuri Kiugu
	Nickname in <sub>kanyax</sub> -	→ 'Njoo'
	Place of Birth	Igoji, South Imenti, Meru County
	Years in Kanyakine	1981 - 1986
	Career	Military/Defense
	Official Title	Major General
	Maj Gen A.M.Kiugu CBS 'ndc' (K) 'acgsc' (USA)	

Major General Aphaxard Muthuri Kiugu arrived in Kanyakine High School in January 1981 and was received by the menacing eyes of one and only Headmaster Zackary Kimathi best understood by boys as simply as 'Kanooro' himself! An astute sporting addict especially volleyball and a sworn fighter with " mininta" bullies, he protected many timid 'monos' from such bullies s..... He too as a solidly studious and was re admitted back to Kanyakine High School for A levels in 1985 and left in 1986.

He enlisted into the Kenya Defense Forces in 1988, was commissioned in 1989 and upon completion of then Armed Forces Training College (AFTC), now Kenya Military Academy (KMA) and he was posted to School of Armour.

He was promoted to the rank of Major General in the year 2021 and later deployed as the Force Commander EACRF in DRC before his current appointment as the Commandant Kenya Military Academy. His military experience has been enriched through various Command and Staff appointments at the Kenya Defence Forces both locally and overseas, which includes;

- Chief of Logistic DHQ,
- Chief of Operations Defence HQ,
- Commanding Officer 78 Tank Battalion
- Senior Instructor Tac Wing Sch of Arm
- Instructor College HQs AFTC,
- Instructor Missile Technical Wing School of Arm

He also served with the United Nations

Major General Kiugu's professional journey has been dedicated to mastering the intricacies of defence strategies, contributing to the field of national security and leadership. He holds Masters of Military Art and Science from USA and Master of Science degree in Security and Risk Management from the University of Leicester. He is a graduate of the National Defence College, Kenya along with Diplomas in International Studies from the University of Nairobi.

> He has been awarded various decorations to include;

- The Chief of the burning Spear (CBS)
  - Elder of the Burning Spear (EBS)
    - Moran of the Burning Spear (MBS)
      - United Nation Peace Keeping Medals
      - 20 Great Years Nyayo Era Medal.

Major General AM Kiugu retired in February 2025 after an illustrious stellar military career. We celebrate the "mboy" in this inaugural 'Newsbrief' who also serves as the Patron of the Alumni Board of Trustees!

## KINE

# Call to Action

We urge every member to join us in making our collective vision a reality by:

- 1. Actively participating in proposed initiatives and events.
- 2. Engaging in professional cohorts and regional chapters to foster connections.
- 3. Contributing to transformative programs, such as the bursary fund and mentorship initiatives.

Your involvement is crucial to the success of our association. Let us rally together to build a network that benefits all members and supports our alma mater.

Looking Ahead: A Shared Vision

The Executive Committee is unwavering in its mission to create a dynamic and impactful association. By prioritizing inclusivity, innovation, and collaboration, we aim to amplify our collective influence and honor our shared heritage.

Together, we can achieve extraordinary milestones. Let us move forward with renewed energy, purpose, and unity.

Thank you for your continued trust and dedication. Warm regards,

Chairman: David Ruchiu

> KANYAKINE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMN