

ARISE

Inaugural Issue March 2025

NEWSBRIEF

"ARISE" is the Kanyakine Old Boys Alumni Association Quarterly Newsletter



Dear
Old Boys / Esteemed Members,

This is to welcome and introduce you with humility to the Kanyakine Old Boys Alumni Association....karibuni 'mboys!' As the Executive committee (Exec) of the Alumni, we are most honoured to have been entrusted with the leadership of this emerging Alumni Association for the past one and half years. Our shared past in the esteemed Alma Mater shaped our future and established us in different spheres of influence and impact.

The Alumni brings you on board to interact 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 shared collective vision to establish this association as a vibrant, impactful, and inclusive network that uplifts its members and our Alma Mater.

This 'ARISE Newsbrief' inaugural edition is to invite and welcome you as a valued member of the Alumni and to induct you into our new theme... **the giant has awoken!!** 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 the greater heights where the greatness of yester years are relieved again! Kindly register as a member of the alumni [here](#).

The giant has indeed awoken!

David Ruchiu

"Welcome aboard
'mboys!'"

Kanyakine Alumni Old Boys Association
Chair, Executive Committee

Editorial Team.

Tom Mogusu, Felix Mutai, Morris Mureti,
David Ruchiu & Major Gen(Rtd) Kiugu



01 | Key Milestone Our Alumni Website

Kanyakine Old Boys Association has a new home and identity... www.kanyaxalumni.org

This platform will strengthen our connections and enhance our alumni networking and be the spring board for supporting our Alma Mater..

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



02 | Key Milestone 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 Alumni!!

Join the thriving community of Kanyakine High School alumni through [our Online Membership Registration Form](#)—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 change-makers, mentors, and trail-blazers who are shaping industries, influencing communities, and uplifting future generations.

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

1. **Exclusive Networking Opportunities** – Connect with fellow alumni across diverse professions and industries.
2. **Mentorship & Career Growth** – Tap into a wealth of experience from successful alumni who are eager to guide and support you.
3. **Giving Back with Impact** – Play an active role in improving our alma mater's academic performance, infrastructure, and student success.
4. **Alumni Events & Reunions** – Stay informed and participate in exciting events, reunions, and collaborative projects.
5. **Recognition & Legacy** – Leave your mark by contributing to meaningful initiatives that will inspire generations to come.
6. 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.
7. **Don't just be a former student**—be a lifelong member of greatness! Sign up today and let's shape the future together.
8. Kindly as a matter of urgency, do Register as a member of Kanyakine Alumni Association and [register 'Naarua'!!](#)



www.kanyaxalumni.org



03

Key Milestone: 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: chairman@kanyaxalumni.org
2. Vice chairman: vchairman@kanyaxalumni.org
3. Secretary: secretary@kanyaxalumni.org
4. • Vice secretary: vsecretary@kanyaxalumni.org
5. • Treasurer: treasurer@kanyaxalumni.org
6. • Organizing Secretary: o.secretary@kanyaxalumni.org
7. • Welfare: welfare@kanyaxalumni.org
8. • Diaspora: diaspora@kanyaxalumni.org
9. • Kanyakine Trustees Patron : patron@kanyaxalumni.org
10. • Membership Inquiries: join@kanyaxalumni.org/ [join link](#)

For general inquiries kindly reach out to secretary@kanyaxalumni.org for compilation.



04

Key Milestone: The Executive Committee

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


1. **Chairman:** Mr. David Ruchiu
2. **Vice Chairman:** Mr. Morris Mureti
3. **Treasurer:** Mr. Robert Marete
4. **Secretary:** Mr. Tom Mogusu
5. **Vice Secretary:** Mr. Felix Mutahi
6. **Organizing Secretary:** Mr. 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:** Mr. 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



David RUCHIU
Chairman



Morris MURETI
Vice Chair



Tom MOGUSU
Secretary



Felix MUTAI
Vice secretary



Robert MARETE
Treasurer



Anderson KIRUNJA
Organizing Sec




Muthuri NYAMU
Rep Trustees




Rev Dr Martin NYAGA
Member
Chair Welfair



Eng. Dennis MUTUA
Member
Chair Diaspora



Eng. Eric MURITHI
Member/Rep
Kanyakine BOM



Dr. Bundi KARAU
Member/Rep
Kanyakine BOM



Geroge MURITHI
Member
Former chair

Board of Trustees:

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

1. **Patron: Maj. Gen.** Aphaxard Kiugu
2. **Member/Coordinator:** Muthuri Nyamu
3. **Member/ Chair of Exec:** David Ruchiu
4. **Member: Rev.** Canon Francis Omondi
5. **Member:** Amb.Eliphaz Barine
6. **Member:** Dr. Roy B. Mugiira
7. **Member:** Mr. David Gikunda
8. **Member:** Mr. Robert Mugambi
9. **Member:** Mr. Mutea Iringo
10. **Member:** Mr. Bruno Mwirigi
11. **Member:** Mr. Muciimi Mbaka
12. **Member:** Mr. Timothy Kariba
13. **Member/Former Chair:** Mr. George Murithi



The Role of the Board of Trustees in the Kanyakine High School Alumni Association

The Board of Trustees plays a critical role in ensuring the sustainability, strategic direction, and governance of the Kanyakine High School Alumni Association. Their key responsibilities include:

01

Governance & Strategic Oversight

The Board of Trustees works to oversight and give advisory counsel to the Exec on its programmes



02

Advisory & Advocacy Role

The Board of Trustees constantly gives advocacy to the Exec on all suggested areas of engagement



03

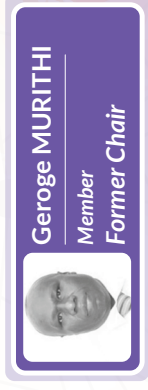
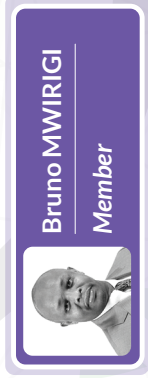
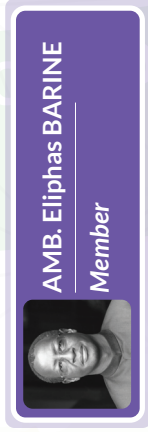
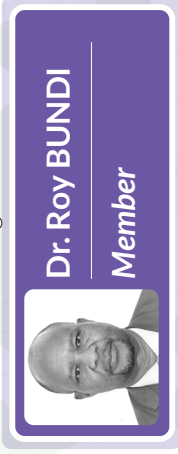
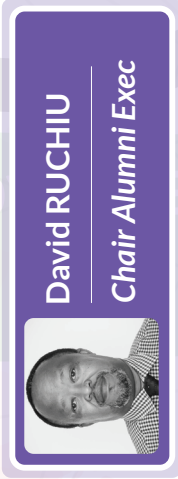
Strengthening Alumni Engagement

The Board of Trustees gives directional advise to the Exec on strategies to ensure engagement by the members



KANYAKINE ALUMNI

Board of Trustees 2024 / 2025



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 Regional Chapters:

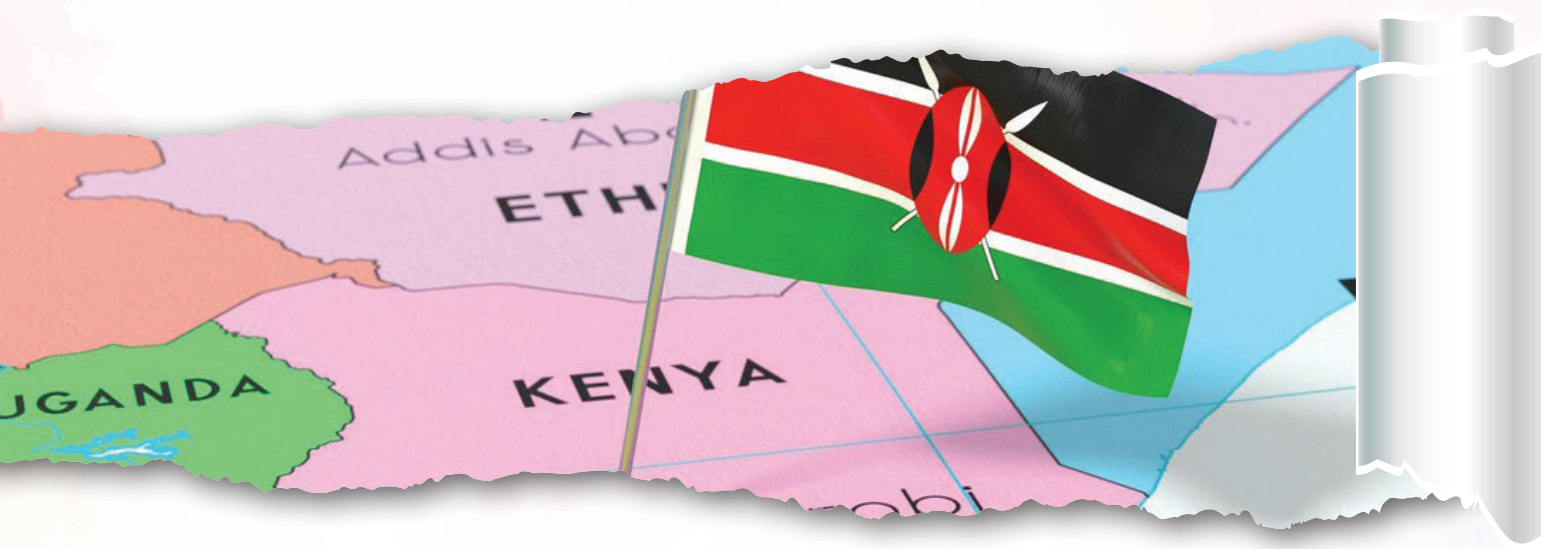
Chapters are regional & international groups of Kanyakine High School alumni, fostering localized networking, mentorship, and collaboration. They enhance alumni engagement, support initiatives, and strengthen connections within specific geographical areas.

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.

KANYAKINE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI

Milestone 6.1: Regional Chapters



01

Nairobi Chapter:

Covering Nairobi and the rest of Kenya.

Nominated Conveners;



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



[Join The Regional chapter WhatsApp Group](#)



[Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register](#)



nairobic@kanyaxalumni.org



02

Meru Chapter:

Representing Alumni members in Meru and other Mt. Kenya counties.

Nominated Conveners;



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



[Join The Regional chapter WhatsApp Group](#)



[Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register](#)



meruc@kanyaxalumni.org



03

Diaspora Chapter:

Uniting alumni abroad and around the world

Nominated Conveners;



- o Eng. Denis Mutua -Chair/convenor
- 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](#)



diasporac@kanyaxalumni.org

The Kanyakine High School Alumni Association is dedicated to building a thriving and influential professional network that fosters career growth, industry collaboration, and lifelong mentorship. Our Professional Cohorts serve as specialized platforms where alumni connect, exchange insights, and drive innovation within their respective fields. By joining a Professional Cohort, you become part of an elite network committed to excellence, influence, and impact—shaping industries while upholding the legacy of Kanyakine High School.



2 Professional Cohorts:

Professional Cohorts 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 6.2: Professional Cohorts

01

Business,
Entrepreneur-
ship, and SMEs

Nominated Conveners;



- o Festus Gitonga-Chair/Convener
- o Karani Muthuri- Secretary



[Join Cohort WhatsApp Group](#)



[Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register](#)



business@kanyaxalumni.org

02

Academia,
Education,
and Research

Nominated Conveners;



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



[Join Cohort WhatsApp Group](#)



[Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register](#)



academia@kanyaxalumni.org

03

Media,
Communication,
and Technology

Nominated Conveners;



- o Muthuri Nyamu- Chair/Convener
- o Thomas Mogusu-Secretary



[Join Cohort WhatsApp Group](#)



[Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register](#)



media@kanyaxalumni.org

04

Engineering,
Manufacturing,
and Technical
Careers

Nominated Conveners;



- o Eng. Eric Murithi- Chair/Convener



[Join Cohort WhatsApp Group](#)



[Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register](#)



engineering@kanyaxalumni.org

05

Agriculture,
Natural Sciences,
and Innovations

Nominated Conveners;



- o Eliphas Mutuma- Chair/Convener
- o Roy Bundi- Secretary
- o David Ruchiu



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agriscience@kanyaxalumni.org

06

Medicine, Public
Health, and
Related Careers

Nominated Conveners;



- o Dr. Bundi Karau- Chair/Convener
- o Joseph Muriuki Marete - Secretary



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medicine.ph@kanyaxalumni.org

07

Military, Police
and Diplomacy

Nominated Conveners;



- o Eric Nyaga- Chair/Convener
- o Robert Murithi Kamtano-Secretary
- o Dickson Munene
- o Robert Mugambi



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security.diplomacy@kanyaxalumni.org

08

National
government /
county
government

Nominated Conveners;



- o Mwenda J. Kinoti - Chair/Convener
- o Derrick Murithi - Secretary



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ng.cg@kanyaxalumni.org

09

Financial
Services,
Banking, and
Accounting

Nominated Conveners;



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



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finance@kanyaxalumni.org

10

Hospitality,
Hotels, and
Tourism

Nominated Conveners;



- o Magambo-Chair/Convener



[Join Cohort WhatsApp Group](#)



[Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register](#)



hospitality@kanyaxalumni.org

11

ICT, and
Performing 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](#)



ict.pa@kanyaxalumni.org

12

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 Rev.Dr. Martin Nyaga
- o Muciimi Mbaka



[Join Cohort WhatsApp Group](#)



[Fill Kanyax Online Membership Registration Form to officially register](#)



political.theology.legal@kanyaxalumni.org



The Kanyakine High School Alumni Association plays a crucial role in fostering a strong, engaged community of former students while actively contributing to the growth and success of the school.

Below are the key roles the alumni can play:

1. Supporting Alumni Members

- a. **Networking & Professional Growth** – Provide career connections, mentorship, and job opportunities among members and networking
- b. **Capacity Building & Training** – Organize and mentorship programs for members in various fields.
- c. **Recognition & Achievements** – Celebrate and highlight alumni milestones to inspire excellence within the network.
- d. **Welfare & Support Systems** – Establish solidarity support and welfare systems for members.
- e. **Business collaboration Opportunities** – Facilitate collaborations prospects for alumni members/businesses.

2. Giving Back to Our Alma Mater

- a. **Academic Support & Mentorship** – Offer guidance to students through career talks, scholarships, and exam preparation support.
- b. **Infrastructure Development** – Contribute to the improvement of school facilities, including ICT labs, libraries, and classrooms.
- c. **Extracurricular Revitalization** – Support clubs, sports teams, and drama to restore Kanyakine's lost glory in competitions.
- d. **Governance & Leadership Advisory** – Engage with the school administration and BOM to drive performance-based strategies.



1. Academics & Profile

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 benchmark academics with Kanyakine in awe!!

2. Leadership & Governance

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 former 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 felt he needed to vacate. The BOM has equally been unable to offer any turn-around strategy, and they await the new principal and the teachers to mid wife performance. Though the previous BOM was comprised of great professionals, their strategy was unclear and this has consigned the school in limbo and hopelessness!



3. Localization of a Great School

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 from around with little motivation as they are made to carry the blame of poor performance! It is argued that 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.

4. Students' Attitude

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!



5. Way forward

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 [Register link](#)

Step

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

In this month of March, Kanyakine High School has witnessed a change of Leadership with the coming in of Mr. Dickson Gitaari as the new principal and the exit of Chief Principal Simon Njagi. This momentous event is expected to bring the much needed impetus to revive every aspect of the alma mater.

'ARISE' wishes to recognize Chief Principal Simon Njagi's tenure and pays tributes and respect on the following areas of his efforts;

1. **Improved Student Discipline** – Reduction in unrest and general peaceful existence.
2. **Infrastructure Upgrades** – notable improvements and better learning facilities.
3. **Stakeholder Partnerships** – respectable collaboration with key education stakeholders.

The new Principal Dickson Gitari takes charge of our alma mater that is variously challenged. He inherits a troubled institution with poor academic performance and lowly motivated teaching staff. He too has to pay attention to the new challenges of low capitation funding and falling students population.



But who is
Mr. Dickson Gitari?



1. He holds a Master's in Leadership & Management in Education and a Bachelor's in Education Science from KEMU and Kenyatta University respectively.
2. He is an experienced school administrator and has been serving as the Principal at Kiangua Secondary School where he grew the school from a nondescript Day School to a large school with about 1000 students.
3. An experienced former Deputy Principal in several schools and renowned for student mentorship and performance improvement.
4. A National Vice-Chair for all Principals in PCEA Schools nationally.
5. An experienced teacher and a long serving KNEC Examiner in Biology who is committed to academic excellence.

Know an old 'mboy'



Name	Aphaxard Muthuri Kiugu
Nickname in kanyax	'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 (Rtd) Aphaxard Muthuri Kiugu arrived in Kanyakine High School in January 1981 and was received by the piercing eyes of the one and only Headmaster Zachary Kimathi, best known by alumni 'mboys' as 'kanooro' because of his bald head. The general was an astute sporting addict, especially volleyball, a great actor and entertainer, and a flexible traditional dancer [Kundia Kathia Ruji (give a deer water)]. His command and leadership attributes were noticeable quite early when he declared war against "Mininta bullies". (Mininta was a smoking den behind the old Ablution Block). He swore to protect timid 'monos' from such bullies, and some of the beneficiaries of his defense architecture are great Kenyans today!

Interestingly, some "Mininta bullies" turned out to be successful Kenyans of great influence! They are kindly requested to "toboa" here so that we can know them by name or else other "mboys" will "toboa" them!

He, too, was a solidly studious student who was readmitted back to Kanyakine High School for A levels in 1985 and left in 1986. He en-

listed in the Kenya Defense Forces in 1988, and trained at the Armed Forces Training College which is now Kenya Military Academy where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1989. He began his career in the military officership in the elite Armoured Brigade as a troop Commander, rising to be the Brigade Commander in the rank of Brigadier (one-star General).

He was promoted to the rank of Major General (two-star General) in the year 2021 and appointed Assistant Chief of the Defense Forces in charge of Human Resources and Logistics, a post that is central in the making of strategic decisions in the military. He would later be appointed Force Commander of the East African Regional Force comprising troops drawn from Kenya and other four East African countries. He managed to silence the guns in North Kivu for a year, and this is attributed to his style of leadership. His military experience has been enriched through various command training and staff appointments, both local and overseas.

Maj.Gen. Kiugu is also a serious scholar in his own rights and is a graduate of the National Defense

College, Kenya. He holds a Diploma in International Studies from the University of Nairobi, a BA Degree in Peace and Conflict Studies from Africa Nazarene University, a Master's Degree in Military Art and Science from the US Army Command and General College and a Master of Science Degree in Security and Risk Management from the University of Leicester.

He was awarded various decorations, including the Moran of the Order of the Burning Spear (MBS), Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear (EBS), Chief of the Order of the Burning Spear (CBS), and peacekeeping medals among others.

Major General Kiugu retired in Feb 2025 from the military after a career spanning over 37 years as the Commandant of the prestigious Kenya Military Academy, a college of The National Defense University of Kenya. We therefore have the reason to celebrate this old 'mboy' in this inaugural Newsletter for his dedication and sacrifice to serving our motherland for the better part of his life. The General also serves as the patron of the Alumni Board of Trustees.

Call To Action



▶ **REGISTER REGISTER TODAY!! REGISTER**
 Here

▶ **BE A MEMBER OF THE REGIONAL CHAPTERS AND PROFESSIONAL COHORT TODAY!!**

▶ **ATTEND UPCOMING ALUMNI MEETINGS ON SCHEDULE.**



IMMEDIATE ALUMNI CALENDAR

Event	Those to attend	Date	Time	Agenda	Type of meeting
General Exec Document review meeting	All Exec members	26/03/2025	1900Hrs	Review the Newsletter and adopt the Alumni website	Virtual Meeting
Trustees Inaugural meeting	All Trustees	08/04/2025	1600Hrs	Adoption of mandate and updates on the alumni development	Physical meeting - Venue TBD
Joint Meeting of the Exec and the Trustees	All members Exec and Trustees	18/04/2025	1600Hrs	Joint onboarding and adoption strategies	Hybrid Physical meeting/Virtual- United Kenya Club
All Old Boys Online meeting	All Old Boys	30/04/2025	1900Hrs	Interaction and updates of the alumni activities	Online/Virtual Meeting
All Old Boys & Career Day	All Old Boys	12/07/2025	Whole Day	Mentorship and inspiring, and networking among all old boys of all generations	Strictly Physical
AGM - Annual General Meeting	All Old Boys, Trustees and Exec members	30/08/2025	1000Hrs	Presentation of the Alumni, Election of new Exec members	Online/Virtual Meeting

