



Nambale Magnet School

A home, a school and a future for children made destitute by the AIDS crisis

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FEATURED STUDENT



B.W. was born in 2003 and came to the Magnet School as a 6-year-old. He is now in Primary Class 3, taught by Dorcas Manaali. His favorite subject is science, and his favorite color is yellow.

B.W. loves to play soccer, and to eat Ugali and meat. His hobbies are playing football (soccer again), and telling stories. He is a part of the Debating Club, and was prefect of his class in 2011.

B.W. aspires to be a doctor one day - and he's off to a great start!

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February, 2013

BIGGER, DEEPER, BROADER AT NAMBALE

Nambale Magnet School founder, Evalyn Wakhusama, has returned to Kenya after three busy weeks in the U.S. While here, Evalyn reconnected with friends and supporters in homes, churches and schools in Florida and Connecticut. The generosity of supporters, in terms of both donations and time, was overwhelming. Evalyn



was also able to introduce Nambale Magnet School to two Rotary clubs, several churches and students from preschool through high school.

While here, Evalyn met interested and welcoming teachers and students who were glad to learn more

about the Nambale Magnet School. A high school civics class asked Evalyn about Kenya's new constitution and about how rights and opportunities for women are improving. Preschoolers asked and answered questions about what is the same and what is different in their school, compared to Nambale Magnet School. Evalyn met amazing educators who were generous with time and ideas. Several gave her books they had written; many shared their teaching materials; one provided simple ideas for creating math and reading tools.

Evalyn found herself dreaming of what more the Nambale Magnet School might become.

- She met with a library team who will travel to Nambale this summer. Because there isn't space for a student-friendly library yet, they suggested that books can start out in a smaller room, available to teachers. A rolling cart can be used to bring books into the classrooms. Our dream is that one day, Nambale Magnet School will have space for a library that learners can enjoy.
- The educator/authors who shared their books led Evalyn to dream of a library of resources for Nambale Magnet School teachers.
- She saw the nursing suite at a middle school, and dreams of space for an infirmary where sick learners could go to meet with a nurse and where boarders could recuperate apart from their classmates.
- She saw music classes and dreams of starting a music program with the learners. Many schools in the U.S. start preschoolers with rhythm instruments and elementary students on a simple recorder. What fun it would be to have simple musical instruments for our Magnet learners.
- She saw preschool classrooms with computers available to the students and middle and high school students who couldn't imagine doing their work without a computer - and dreams of laptops (and tablets and e-readers) for our Magnet learners.
- She saw guidance and administrative suites at middle and high schools, and dreams of office and meeting space for Nambale Magnet School staff. She saw conference rooms, and dreams of space where both staff and community members can gather to improve the lives of Nambale children and families.



Evalyn with an American class



New classrooms under construction

As Evalyn dreams of what Nambale Magnet School WILL become, she is always aware of the need for operating funds to pay for ongoing expenses. She discovered that one Connecticut town spends \$17,000 per student, and learned that the cost of a private education is even higher. Our estimate is an

annual cost of \$1,000 per learner at the Nambale Magnet School. That figure pays for teachers, classroom supplies, uniforms, meals.... In January our newest class increased enrollment to 222 learners. Evalyn dreams of the day when Nambale Magnet School will be self-supporting; for now, the learners count on our donations.

It is hard to express the appreciation we and Evalyn feel for the time and ideas that were graciously and generously shared during her time here. Evalyn was inspired by these meetings and touched by everyone's enthusiasm. She returned to Kenya encouraged and greatly excited for the future of the Nambale Magnet School.

Mary Thompson
Member of the Board and Website Coordinator, WIKS-USA, Inc.

Blessings!

The WIKS-USA Team