

# Rules and Regulations of the NPS scholarship program, September 2012

The first version of this document was read to the parents during the PTA-meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2011. A copy was given to the PTA-chairman, who filed it away with other PTA-documents and had to make it accessible to anybody who wanted to consult it. Another copy was kept in the school files. The same shall be done with this updated version. The document contains the official school policy on scholarships and serves as a reference for any question concerning the scholarships. In order to prevent any disappointment or bad feelings, it is of crucial importance that the parents and pupils are well informed how the scholarship beneficiaries are chosen and what it means exactly to benefit from a scholarship, which is why this document has been written. In case there are changes, amendments and adaptations to it, a new document will be issued out to the PTA, as it is happening with this one. This document applies to scholarships for Senior Secondary School only.

## Admission into the scholarship program

1. The process of identifying the scholarship beneficiaries shall be as follows: Every pupil who has successfully finished J.S.S. 3 can, if interested, officially apply to be rewarded with a scholarship by the Najude Pioneer School. The application letter shall be written as a formal letter and has to contain the following parts:
  - a. Title: „Application for Senior Secondary School scholarship”
  - b. Addressed to the Management of Najude Pioneer School
  - c. Date
  - d. Name, address and phone number of the applicant
  - e. Essay of motivation: Why should I be awarded with the scholarship, why do I deserve it? What exactly is the reason that I want to further my education instead of marrying or working in my farm? What will I do with my education in the future, what will I use it for? What are my dreams, my aims, what do I want to do with my life? What is my vision for myself, for my community, for my country?

The applicants shall hand in their application to the Principal before the school closes for summer break. The Principal will then send the applications to the Management, which will assess all of them and decide about the distribution of the scholarships during the summer vacation period. The pupils who were given a scholarship will be informed through the phone number written down in the application or through a messenger as soon as possible. They will have enough time to prepare themselves and will start attending their new school immediately after summer vacation.

2. The scholarship beneficiaries will be chosen based on their school grades above all, but also based on their school record and their application itself.
3. The decision is taken by the Management and the benefactors only. The Principal has absolutely no influence on this decision, so trying to pressurize her is in vain, and she shall not be blamed by anybody.
4. The number of pupils awarded with a scholarship isn't the same every year. The number can vary from year to year, depending on the number of applications, the grades of the pupils and also on the budget of the school and the benefactors.
5. We are not forcing any of the students to further their education. If they prefer to stay in the village and work in their farm, they are very free to do so. We are even happy if

they tell us open heartedly, because not everybody is born to be an academic. There are different ways of finding happiness in life. But we don't want to support a pupil with an expensive scholarship if he doesn't appreciate it, if he doesn't see the value of it, if he doesn't even want it. There are so many other intelligent pupils in the Najude Pioneer School, eager to learn, eager to explore the world around them, eager to fulfil their destiny in life. They are waiting for an opportunity such as these scholarships, and if given, they take it and will never give it away. These are the kind of students that are supposed to be supported with this scholarship program. So before applying for the scholarship, every student shall take a minute and think about the implications of receiving a scholarship. He or she shall be entirely sure that this is what they want.

### Contribution of the parents

6. The parents have to contribute to the expenses by paying termly fees double the amount of the Najude Pioneer School fees, i.e. 2'000 Naira each term.
7. Scholarship beneficiaries will be provided with the following items by the Najude Pioneer School:
  - a. School uniforms
  - b. School and hostel fees
  - c. Textbooks, notebooks and other writing material
  - d. School shoes

School shoes will be provided only at the initial stage. Parents have to contribute by providing their children with school shoes when the ones given to them by the NPS are spoilt. They also have the responsibility to provide their children with other things they would need in the school such as socks, under wears and other provisions.

8. It is the duty of the parents to visit their children on every visiting day.
9. When their children want to apply for a scholarship, the parents also have to take a decision: Do they want to support their children in their education, or do they want them to work in their fields and marry early? If they want their child to excel in life, to achieve something great, they have to learn to let it go. If they cannot do that, they shall tell us, and the application of their child will not be considered, creating space for another student. If, however, the parents agree to send their child to Senior Secondary school, they commit themselves for three years; they can't just take the student back to the village in the middle of these three years.
10. Before their children will be admitted into the scholarship program, the parents have to sign a document pledging to abide by all the above mentioned conditions. If they fail to abide by any of them, their children will be removed from the scholarship program at the end of the respective academic session.

### Scholarship beneficiaries

11. One of the reasons why it was necessary to write this document is because there has been a problem with some of the older scholarship beneficiaries: Their school performance and their attitude towards their education in general was constantly deteriorating, as well as their moral and social standards towards their former teachers, their matron and their benefactors. The management came to the conclusion that serious action had to be taken and that this kind of behaviour will not be tolerated.
12. The scholarship beneficiaries and their parents shall know the following: The continuous scholarship support will be based on the school grades, i.e. on the report

cards at the end of each academic session. The school performance of every student will be analyzed each term. If the grades are not sufficient, a warning will be issued. If they don't improve during the following term, the student will be dismissed from the scholarship program. If a student has to repeat his or her class, the same applies.

13. At the end of the every term, the students have to write an essay. They shall write about their experiences during the term, if they have achieved their aims, what they have learned, how they are doing, what their dreams are, etc. This will help the students to reflect about their life and to focus on their aims and dreams. The essays will also serve as a documentation to the benefactors in Switzerland who make these scholarships possible.
14. Before the students will be admitted into the scholarship program, they also have to sign the above mentioned document pledging to abide by all the above mentioned conditions. If they fail to abide by any of them, they will be removed from the scholarship program at the end of the respective academic session.

### Scholarship Schools

15. Which schools the children are sent to is decided by the Management only. However, the Management is open to suggestions by the parents. If they know a very good school that is providing a high quality education and is not too expensive, we can send their child to that school. It is even an advantage if the pupils are in different schools, so that the performances of the schools can be compared to each other.
16. It can be a daily school or a boarding school. The advantage of a boarding school is that it is more economic and it helps the students to widen their horizons by mingling with other children from different parts of the country. In case we can not find a good boarding school, however, the pupils will stay in the house we have rented for them, where a matron will take care of them and cook for them.

Signed  
Management Najude Pioneer School