



HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

THSAA 13TH TRIENNIAL REUNION



AUGUST 3, 2017

THSAA
NEW YORK

Head Teacher's Report

1.0 Introduction

Tutorial High School, a premier academy, was established on 1st September 1939, under the leadership of the astute gentleman Austin Cosmo Castello. He was joined fifteen years later by his younger brother, Joseph. Their vision was to educate and empower the under privileged youth of Guyana. Seventy eight-years later Tutorial High School continues to wax strong. When men dare to dream things happen. The dream of the Castello brothers was kept alive by many hard working stakeholders, including past and current Head teachers (Ms. Latishia Lake, Ms. Audrey Abrams-Thomas and Ms. Walterine Mc Leod to name a few) and staff, the Parent Teachers' Association, Alumni Association, the Board of Governors and the Ministry of Education.

As stakeholders, we the Head teacher and staff do take great pride in allowing our readers to take a virtual tour of Tutorial High School, as I review the activities of the school over the period September 2014 – July 2017.

1.1 Staffing

We have a mandate to prepare our young men and women, our most valuable assets- our students to become responsible adults, so that they will contribute meaningfully to the building of this beautiful nation Guyana. In order to stay committed to this mandate, we must have the necessary qualified teaching and ancillary staff. For the period under consideration in this report, staff turnover was kept to a minimum. Currently, there are forty-six (46) teachers on staff, (see Appendix).

23 Trained University graduates, 14 Trained Teachers, 1 Untrained Graduate, 4 Temporary Qualified Master/Mistress and 4 Part time teachers. The average student population is 800.

1.2 Farewell

The school bid farewell to Ms. Anna Kokaram (Head of Department Modern Language) on May 27, 2016. She served the school for thirty- seven (37) unbroken service. Members of Staff, the Alumni Local and Overseas Chapters, and students expressed their appreciation in songs, dances and tributes. She was also presented with gifts.

1.3 Curriculum

We offer a Curriculum of 28 subjects that caters for the all -round development of each student, therefore enabling them to make their meaningful contribution to society.

CSEC results in 2015 was very favourable to Tutorial High. Our school was placed 9th among the top 10 positions of Georgetown Schools. Seventy One percent (71%) Of our students gained passes, with grades

1-3 in each subject area. However, the 2016 results were unsatisfactory, we have made a pledge to improve our academic performance in 2017.

1.4 Notable Successes

(i) Tutorial High School-Journalism Institute

On the October 2, 2014, Tutorial High School Journalism Institute was launched. It was the initiative of the Tutorial High School New York Support Group and was funded by that Support Group. This launch was part of the 75th Anniversary of the school. Instruction was facilitated by Mr. Arnon Adams who was assisted by Ms. Vanessa Larose. Today the students continue to practice the skills developed. It should be noted that one student who benefited from the instructions will be employed in the field of Journalism as of Monday, July 17, 2017.

(ii) Visit by the Executive President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana

On Friday, September 18, 2015 the Executive President of Guyana, Brigadier David Arthur Granger visited Tutorial High School. He interacted with the students, teachers and members of the alumni and was made an honorary member of the school's Alumni.

In keeping with a promise made at the 2015 graduation exercises, the Executive President donated two million dollars \$2, 000,000 to the school. The cheque was collected by the Head teacher, Ms. Mc Leod from the Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Protocol of the Ministry of the Presidency Mr. Francis Abraham.

(iii) Sports

The ethos of Tutorial High is one of sport. This has continued to this day. Each year the school participates in the Inter- School Athletic Championships. A number of schools would compete among them is the St Joseph High. I wish to report that on a number of occasions Tutorial High School have emerged winners. The school participated in the Barbados Relay Fair. We performed well. The school placed second in the male under 15, 4 X400 m relay, a third place in the 4 x 100 m. They were placed 1st overall in the male under 15 category with 24 points out of 30. The girls were placed 8th out of 20 teams.

We were invited to be part of the Premier Sports Promotion (PSP) Under 17 male football competition. Tutorial emerged the winner. Student David Coates was awarded most valuable player and the player with the most goals. Tumanie Whitney was awarded best Defensive Player.

The school participated in the Ministry of Education's Jubilee Relay Festival which took place on April 15, 2016. Ms. Melinda Primo-Solomon was the team manager. The students competed in a number of events. Tutorial High School emerged in sixth place out of 20 participating schools.

It was a momentous occasion when our all-rounder Zion Gray was drafted in the under 16 National Basketball Championship (CBC). Guyana was placed second among the 10 Caribbean countries. Zion represents the school at Athletics, Football, Cricket and Basket Ball.

We did not only play sports, we also participated in the National Drama Festival. The play was based on human trafficking and was entitled "Her Story". It was written by Ms. Melinda Primo-Solomon, teacher of Tutorial High School (THS) and directed by Ms. Primo-Solomon and Ms. Felice Munroe, THS teacher.

"Her Story" was among the nominations for best play.

We were also placed first in the Children's Mashramani Competition with our calypso entitled "Clean up Campaign". This calypso was sung by Chioma Archer, student, with fellow students: Zenica Fox, Angel Elgin and Antoine Toney as backup singers.

Tutorial High Girl Guide Trishel Jarvis was awarded the Muriel Wight scholarship by the Guyana Girl Guides Association for her outstanding performance at the 2015 CSEC. Tutorial High School Girl Guides (THSGG) also had a celebratory brunch with the First Lady of Guyana Ms. Sandra Granger in April of 2016. They also participated in World Thinking Day activities, where they dramatized a poem under the leadership of Ms. Felice Munroe and were featured on the front page of Kaieteur News Paper adding to the splendor of our school.

(iv) Apprenticeship

Cristian Hamilton former student of Tutorial High completed his Republic Bank Apprenticeship in May 2017 and was awarded a certificate. This year's nominees are Omega Bancroft and Marlon Seecharan. The Republic Bank Guyana Inc. has been offering to the Business stream students of THS an opportunity to develop their banking skills by participating in their apprenticeships programme.

On behalf of the Board of Governors and staff and students of Tutorial High School, I wish to express sincere appreciation for the selecting students of Tutorial High to participate in your apprenticeship programme.

(v) Essay Competition

In March 2016, former student Rachel Jones who is an artist and entrepreneur, held an essay competition for the grade 9 students entitled 'You Are Enough' among. The successful students were awarded monetary prizes and gifts.

(vi) Career Fair

The school held its inaugural career fair during the second term of the 2015/2016 academic year. This effort was well supported by all stakeholders. A number of organizations and agencies also participated.

The fair was a resounding success. On behalf of the Board of Governors and staff and students of Tutorial High School, I wish to express sincere appreciation to all lend support to ensure the success of this activity.

(vii) Retreat 2017

On Friday, July 14, 2017, the Board of Governors, THS, held successfully, an inaugural stakeholders Retreat. The venue for this event was the auditorium of the Guyana Industrial Training Centre, Woolford Avenue and Albert Street. The Retreat was facilitated by Mr. Phillip DaSilva, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Guyana, Berbice Campus, and Mr. Gregory Blyden, Lecturer, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Guyana, Turkeyen Campus. The Theme for the Retreat was “Tutorial High School 2017 and Beyond- Enhancing Participation, Performance and Accountability in the 21st Century.”

There were three main objectives:

- i) To conduct a SWOT Analysis of the existing school situation as the basis for developing a sustainable positive school climate at Tutorial High School;
- ii) To conduct a preliminary assessment of the existing school climate at the Tutorial School with the stakeholders (Administrators, Teachers, Board Members, Members of the Alumni Association and Members of the Parent Teacher Association) who were present.
- iii) To identify possible strategic goals for inclusion in a process for the development of a Strategic Plan for Tutorial High School for 2017 to 2022.

Mr. Marcel Hutson, Chief Education Officer (CEO) give the opening address and declared the Retreat open. Other Ministry of Education Officials who presented were Ms. Donna Chapman, Deputy Chief Education Officer Administration, Mr. Sherwyn Blackman, District Education Officer, while Mr. Jameel Rasul, President, PTA, presented on behalf of that stakeholder group. Mr. Desmond Sears, President, Tutorial High School Alumni Association, presented on behalf of the Alumni.

The Reunion was a success and the Headteacher and staff wish to express gratitude to the Board of Governors for planning the event.

1.5 CHALLENGES

The Administration and staff of Tutorial High are diligent and hard working. We set our goals and are determine to succeed in all endeavours. We know that our obstacles are our pathways to success. Therefore, we regard our challenges as stepping stones along the journey of success.

One such challenge was the shortage of teachers in some subject areas. This challenge was confronted and overcome.

1.6 Conclusion

The Board of Directors, Head teacher and Staff wish to extend our sincere gratitude to the Tutorial Alumni Association, and pray that God continues to encapsulate you in His love and care and keep you in His abundant blessing. Continue to keep the flag of Tutorial High flying high and we the school, pledge to do the same. Stay in God's peace.

Best Wishes.

Submitted by

Ms. Walterine McLeod

Graduate Head Teacher.

Appendix

Table 1 Breakdown of Administrative, Teaching and Ancillary Staff

Position	Comments	Count
Administrative Staff		
Head Teacher	Trained Graduate	1
Deputy Head Teacher	Trained Graduate	1
Administrator	Trained Graduate	1
Teaching Staff		
Senior Master/Mistress (SM)	Trained Graduates	2
Head of Departments		9
➤ Science	Trained Graduate	
➤ Home Economics Management	Trained Graduate	
➤ Business Education	Trained Graduate	
➤ Social Studies	Trained Graduate	
➤ Agricultural Science	Trained Graduate	
➤ Allied Arts	Trained Graduate	
➤ English	Non-Graduate	
➤ Mathematics	Trained Graduate (SAM ag. HoD)	
➤ Modern Languages	HoD, English, oversees the functioning of this Department	
➤ Information Technology	HoD Business Education oversees the functioning of this Department	
➤ Industrial Technology	Graduate SAM	
Senior Assistant Master/Mistress (SAM)	Trained Graduates	7
	Untrained Graduates	3
Trained Graduate Master/Mistress (TGM)	Trained Graduates	2
AM	Trained Teacher's Certificate	7

Untrained Graduate Master/Mistress	Trained Graduate	3
	Untrained Graduate	1
Temporary Qualified Master/Mistress (TQM)		6
Temporary Unqualified Master/Mistress (TUM)		1
Part-time		4
Ancillary Staff		
Library Assistant		1
Typist Clerk		1
Office Assistant		1
Sweeper/Cleaner	Full-time	1
	Part-time	4
Total		54