HANDING OVER SPEECH DELIVERED BY MASTER OKUMO PRINCE ON 11TH FEBUARY, 2012 AT THE A. A DADEY HALL AS OUT-GOING SENIOR PREFECT.

“Then he took hold of his own clothes and rent them in two pieces. And he took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of Jordan. Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, “’ where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?’ And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other and Elisha went over .2Kings chapter 2 verses 12-14.

Mr. Chairman, the Honorable Headmaster, Our committed Assistant Headmasters, the chaplain, Electoral commission, senior Housemaster and senior housemistress, staff, out-going Prefects, To be Adehye, Prefects Elect. Fellow students, Ladies and Gentlemen. It gives me much pleasure and delight to deliver my farewell address and to welcome the newly-appointed and elected office.

On the 20th day of February, 2011 the mantle of leadership was handed over to us by Master Dodzi Dotse Yakor who charged us to dedicate ourselves and perform our duties to the best of our abilities. It was with a good heart and a guided motive that we took up the responsibility to steer the affairs of the students body.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Mr. Chairman, the out-going prefectural Board came into office with a prime motive of improving discipline and leaving an indelible mark of excellence in both the academic and extra-curricular spheres of the school. In conjunction with the SRC, we hoped to complete the shade on school field land to continue the marker board project.

CHALLENGES

“Smooth roads never make good drivers”. Smooth sea never makes good sailors. Clear skies never make good pilot, challenge-free life never makes a strong and good person. The board highly inspired by this statement saw the challenges it faced as stepping stones only aimed at making us a better board.

Mr. Chairman, some prefects were negligent and lackadaisical in discharging their duties, also some prefects were again brought to face disciplinary committee. Speaking of the disciplinary committee, no matter how hard we tried, we had quite a number of disciplinary cases which made the leadership a herculean task. The SRC also had its fair share of the problems, challenges and amidst them were financial constraints.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Amidst all these challenges, ladies and Gentlemen, the lord God has done great things for us which I believe is arguably the greatest the school has ever witnessed. I am glad to say that in collaboration with the SRC, PTA and the administration we have been able to complete loads of projects to add to the previous one.

To begin with, we were able to establish a solid student representative council that sought to the proper channel of students grievances in spite at times breaking the normal protocol. Mr. Chairman you will be amazed that it got to a time where the SRC was all the students could talk about.

Secondly, the SRC organized a mega SRC week celebration dubbed “sustaining our environment the role of the youth” which saw our students take to the streets of the Akropong township to raise awareness about the need to conserve the environment, and some other activities which included; debate competition, science and math quiz, health walk, sport and a grand funfair dubbed “final fantasy” from 13th to 19th November 2011. The celebration also saw students in a neatly printed lacoste.

Thirdly, the SRC in collaboration with the editorial board, have organized yet another Primus Excellence Award its nitration last year, this is aimed at encouraging and awarding excellence among students themselves.
Mr. Chairman, the council also saw to the maintenance of Previous or past project accomplished by past SRC. In terms of projects, the SRC added to the technological advancement of this school, a projector that is currently serving numerous functions in this school. This brings to light the fact developmental projects must truly serve their functions. Again the council completed the marker board project for the six unit classroom block.

Furthermore, it was the vision of my administration to see to the refurbishment of our classroom blocks given the deplorable state it was in; God being so good the SRC with the aid of the administration particularly our visionary headmaster here being able to accomplish just that. Then again our headmaster (OyeadeEvie) and the PTA have been able to solve the water crises by providing mechanized bore-holes. Ladies and Gentlemen I would like it if we give a round of applause to OyeadeEvie for his good work.

In the field of entertainment, the prefectural board has organized successful programmes like “voice of Okuas” and face of Okuas to nurture the talents of students.

Again in the field of sports, our footballers, basketball players, hockey players, athletes among others have stood against all odds and have been successful in all competitions.

Mr. Chairman, the prefectural board, though the help of the SRC did not only pursue projects, but also lived to our social responsibility. The council donated some amount of money to the bereaved families of the late Mrs. Rosemond Amponsah Gyan a teacher here before she passed away.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our administration could not have come this far without the help of some people on campus. But firstly, I would like to thank the Lord God Almighty for his goodness and mercies and for bringing us this far. Our sincerest gratitude goes to the Headmaster and the entire administration, the chaplain and all teachers who have relentlessly assisted the board and the SRC.

I must include the tremendous deeds of Mr. Kingsley Debra Sarpong, the senior housemaster and Mrs. Arku Cobbah, senior housemistress, not forgetting Mr. Felix Akuffo, our patron, Mr. Samuel Akornor, Mr. Ohene Adams, Mr. Akoto, just to mention a few. We are grateful to the non-teaching staff especially the school typists and weekly SOD’s. To the brass band and cadet corps, clubs and all denominations, we say thank you. To the students of Okuapemman School who contributed Gh 1.00 each, may God richly bless you.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The out gone prefects are charging the new prefects to maximize the level of discipline among students and to achieve higher goals. Due to the financial constraint of the current SRC as mentioned earlier, the council was unable to complete the shades on the school field and is thus throwing this opportunity to the incoming SRC to complete that project.

We also plead on behalf of newly elected prefects that, the administration not forgetting the teachers to assist them in their effort to maintain discipline and in the running of their day-to-day administration.

Mr. Chairman, I want to congratulate Master Nyame – Owusu Emmanuel and his assistant Adu George Asare, as well as their colleague prefects on winning the elections.

Earlier in my quotation “Then he took hold of his own clothes and rent them into pieces. And he took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him ....” Elisha sought double the spirit of Elijah and so I say to Master Nyame – Owusu Emmanuel, seek to be doubled what I have done and may the good Lord see you through the task ahead of you.

Semper Primus – Always First