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To: Howard Bernstein HBernstein@Continental-Industries.com

scanner@Continental-Industries.com

It must be noted that many of these children perform below average and do not possess the 'requisite skills' and knowledge for Secondary Education particularly Literacy, and Numeracy Skills. Nevertheless, we are committed to manufacture the best possible product from the raw material we receive using the resources that are available to us. It is hoped that with time, the support of other interested parties and stakeholders of education and continued enthusiasm of the teachers and students that academic achievements will be enhanced.

2008 has seen 36 students completing their Secondary Education writing a maximum of 8 subjects at CSEC Examinations, 29 are graduating here today as having a sound Secondary Education. The completion rate is alarmingly low; the statistics revealed that the SSEE intake for the year 2003 was 120, five years later only 34 or 28.3% of the students have actually completed their secondary education. There are numerous variables that can be attributed to this phenomenon esp. the socio-economic conditions of our society. It is the Administration's fervent hope that through this motivational exercise and renewed sense of commitment that our outputs will improve in the immediate future.

Madam Chairperson in closing, the future for Lower Corentyne Secondary is gleaming and signals that there is hope for this institution to return to its reputable and significant position in our society. As we press forward to reach this mark we recognize the role of partnership and urge all major stakeholders in education, both foreign and local to continue to partner with us to propagate education, so that we can begin to mend the deteoriating social fabric of our society.

A heartfelt thank you to all the donors and supporters of today's exercise and to all those esp. the hardworking teachers who has put the pieces together for us to have what we have experienced and witnessed here today. Congratulations to the class of 2008. May your future endeavors be blessed and fruitful.

Thank you and have a splendid evening!!!!!!!!

LOWER CORENTYNE SECONDARY SCHOOL