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WAKE UP FROM THE SLUMBER

The National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS) has keenly monitored the shambolic activities of the Ghana Education Service (GES) in recent times and its adverse effects on Ghanaian students.

The level of ineptitude and gross inconsistencies by the management of GES cannot be over-emphasized. The recent backtracking on their own directive to Achimota School to admit Messrs Marghuy and Nkrabea was a case in point when GES showed gross incompetence and insensitivity.

The management of GES has taken this level of insensitivity a notch higher by disrupting the academic calendar of Form Three SHS students without prior notice to parents and students. This unfortunate situation left hundreds of thousands of students and parents stranded across the country after they obliged with the already announced reopening dates and reported to their various schools.

The only compensation these stranded students got from GES was an attempt to shift the blame on CHASS; that they requested for extension of the vacation. The statement by GES only showed an organization which is not ready to accept blame for its obvious failure and incompetencies.

This is certainly not the first time an unfortunate decision like this has been announced at the last minute by GES. GES recently inconvenienced Form One students and their parents by changing their reporting date from 10th March to 18th March 2021, they have repeated this canker of an attitude coupled with a very late notice to form three students who have a limited time to prepare adequately for their final exams. In fact, since 2018, the Ghana Education Service has changed reopening dates eight (8) times, leaving both parents and students to suffer the brunt of their decisions.

The management of GES is not oblivious of the challenges in our educational sector, and truth must say, they have always been reactive rather than proactive in handling issues as and when they arise.

As we acknowledge the economic impacts of covid-19 on parents and students, management of GES should not compound this condition with their inimic inconsistencies. We entreat GES and the Ministry of Education to be diligent, pragmatic and show proper leadership in the discharge of their duties.

We support any initiative that advances the cause of education and eliminates barriers to educational growth of every Ghanaian child. Beyond brilliant policies is also the need for proper implementation in order for us to achieve the maximum benefits of such initiatives. The GES has fallen short in recent times. The leadership of GES must wake up from their slumber. The recent happenings at the GES does not only affect the Ghanaian students competitiveness at the global stage but also threatens the success chalked over the years within the educational front. It is our hope this level of incompetence has not come to stay.

We offer our heartfelt solidarity to all Ghanaian students affected by the decision of GES and assure them we are committed to their welfare.

Aluta Continua..

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