

# CURRICULUM REFORMS IN KENYA

## *Why Competency Based Curriculum in Kenya?*



- Summative evaluation of the 8-4-4 curriculum (KICD, 2009) revealed that the curriculum was examination oriented, emphasized coverage of content, little emphasis on skill development and application.
- CBC reforms came following the recommendation of the education task force of 2010
- Students who completed the system had acquisition of critical competencies such as communication skills, digital skills, entrepreneurship skills and agricultural skills among others.
- A Needs Assessment was conducted countrywide in January 2016.
- Findings of the Needs Assessment report concurred with the summative evaluation report.
- Additionally, values and soft skills were not being adequately exhibited in the behaviour of Kenyans therefore raising the need for their emphasis as required by Chapter 6 of the Constitution.
- The Task force on realignment of education to the Kenya Constitution 2010 and global standards recommended a **Competency Based Curriculum** that allows the learner to progress from one level to another based on their ability and achievements without undue pressure to pass exams.

- The CBC provides opportunity for learners' career pathways

### *What the CBC promises*

- Competency Based Curriculum promises value addition by:
- Providing a basis for acquisition of knowledge, skills, values and attitude that are applicable in everyday life of the learner.
- Nurturing every learner's potential, in the premise that every learner has some level of giftedness arising from inborn and environmental exposure.
- Developing an engaged, empowered and ethical citizen who will contribute positively to their own life and that of their community.

### *What's New?*

8-4-4 Curriculum	Competency Based Curriculum
<p><b>Content</b></p> <p>The learners learn a lot of details on the subjects they are exposed to. However, they are not adequately exposed to opportunities to apply the knowledge in their day to day life.</p> 	<p><b>Competencies</b></p> <p>The learners are provided with opportunity to practice knowledge, skills and values learnt in school and apply them at home and in the community.</p> 

## **Rigid Curriculum**

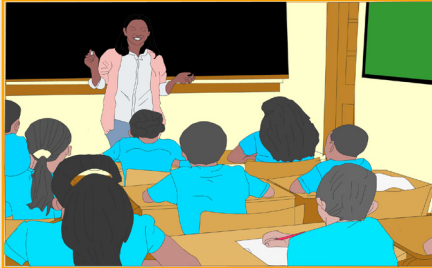
The subject choices are limited to the traditional Sciences, Mathematics, Humanities and languages

## **Flexibility**

Learners have an opportunity to choose from a wide range of Learning Areas including emerging technologies.

## **Teacher centred**

Emphasis is on teacher centred methodologies with focus on coverage of content.



## **Learner centred**

Emphasis is on facilitating learner participation, peer coaching and parental engagement.



## **Examination**

It is examination oriented. The emphasis is on excellence on academic performance. Focus is on terminal level examinations to define the achievement of learners.

## **Assessment**

Emphasis is on acquisition of knowledge, skills and values and their applications. Learner's achievement is gauged from continuous assessment and varied forms of assessment.

## Schooling

Emphasis is on the number of years in school and certificates acquired.

## Education

Emphasis is on both the academic achievement and soft skills developed.

### *Ultimate Goal*

The anticipated result from the Competency Based Curriculum is to have an engaged, empowered and ethical citizen.



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