

Good afternoon fellow citizens. I know our candidates and parents have been patiently waiting for this day. We apologize for the delay in release of results but be rest assured that we are releasing well in time for transition and admission into higher and technical institutions for next academic year. This was the largest cohort of examination candidates ever and we wanted to make sure we do due diligence.

We just returned from the Transforming Education Summit in New York where Sierra Leone's President, His Excellency Dr Julius Maada Bio was co-chair along with the UN Secretary-General. This global honour comes from our sustained investments in education and our renewed commitment to keep transforming learning for all. "Transforming Learning for all" is in fact the title of our Education Sector Plan (2022-2026) which will shape all our interventions over the next five years.

In New York, President Bio committed to sustaining an investment of minimum 20% in the education sector in addition to the following:

- cut in half the number of out-of-school children of primary school age by 2030, compared to today
- launch an Alliance for Foundational Learning through which we further commit to cutting the rate of learning poverty in half or more by 2030
- commit to preparing our students for the future by making climate education a central component at all levels
- commit to setting measurable targets for skills training and technical education.

Today, we will release to candidates, the West African Senior School Certificate Examination WASSCE 2022 conducted by the West African Examination Center.



Ladies and Gentlemen there is lots to be proud of as a nation. But before I announce some metrics of interest, I want to remind us of the following impact of the Free Quality School Education that will place these numbers into context:

- When parents save tuition fees, examination fees, and costs of core text books, they re-invest it largely in the education of their children.
- When government ensures that 3.1 million core textbooks in English and Maths are in the hands of our secondary school children, they learn.
- When government ensures that it recruits and trains more teachers, increasing their salaries 3 times in 5 years, they perform better.
- When government makes learning materials like past papers and other curriculum content freely available to students using digital technology, we see improved learning.
- When government invests in building hundreds of classrooms, providing thousands
 of furniture and making schools safer, ensuring our children can go to school and
 return home safer through school transportation, those children feel safer and learn
 better.
- When government reviews all its education curriculum, making it fit of purpose, our children become more competitive globally.
- When government engages students, teachers, parents, and the community in the provision of a more inclusive and equitable education, quality improves for all.

These are but a few commitments we have sustained over the last four years. While, we are not surprised at the outcomes, and the jump is not spontaneous (that is we have been seeing upward trends over the past years) we are hopeful that we have more to do as we seek to transform our country through education.



And now for some Key highlights:

- The number of candidates sitting WASSCE has increased by 479% 2018-22, reaching a record 186,695 students for whom results have been released to the MBSSE. The rest have been withheld. Schools should follow WAEC protocols with any Grievance Redress
- For the second year in a row, there are **more female students than male students** sitting WASSCE.
- The pass rate for individual papers has climbed from 64% in 2021 to 77% in 2022.
- The number of students obtaining the **benchmark 5 credits in a single sitting has** increased by 1863% between 2018 and 2022.
- The **top student** sat and passed all 8 of his subjects with an average grade of 1.63, i.e. something better than a B2.
- The top student was a girl and a joint second was also a girl
- The **top school** saw 100% of its candidates obtain the benchmark 5 credits as well as all meeting the minimum requirements for direct entry to university degree programmes, with an average grade of 2.33, i.e. approximately a B2.
- The number of candidates achieving direct university degree programme entry requirements by obtaining 5 credits including a credit in English Language and/or Mathematics in a single sitting has increased by an amazing 1,781% over the period 2018:2022. In 2022 more than 108,000 students obtained the requirements, which is more than the previous 5 years combined. More females than males obtained these requirements
- The pass rates for English Language and Mathematics are 63% and 90% respectively. Males slightly outperformed females in English Language nationally but in mathematics the opposite was true with females outperforming males
- There remains large variation in performance across subjects. Of the twenty subjects with most candidates sitting, Science (Core) had the highest pass rate (95%) and Commerce the lowest (11%)
- There remains a **large variation in performance across districts**, including in terms of average grade/unit, percentage obtaining 3 and above credits and for obtaining the requirements for entry into a full first degree programme



The top 10 schools based on average grades are

6010609	Kamboi(Lebanese) Senior Secondary School, Kenema	
	SCIENCE WORLD S.S.S., 16W BLACKHALL RD., ASHORBIE	
6041790	CORNE	
6041354	Providence International Senior High School, Freetown	
6041603	Hammond Int. Academy Secondary School, Freetown	
6030305	Mallory Jansen Memorial High School (SSS), Ngolala	
6041794	PENTECOSTAL S.S.S., ABERDEEN FERRY ROAD	
6021016	Furlange School of Excellence(EDUCAID) Senior Sec. Scho	
6041371	Dele-Peddle International High School, Freetown	
6041511	EXTRA MILE OBA FUNKIA COMMUNITY S.S.S., GODERICH	
	6041790 6041354 6041603 6030305 6041794 6021016 6041371	

• The top 4 candidates based on average grades are

	Kamboi(Lebanese) Senior Secondary School,	
Kenema	Kenema	SKAIKAY NASMA (6As)
	Community Initiative Academy Senior Secondary	KALLON KHADIJAH
Kenema	School, N	HASSAN (5As)
West-	Providence International Senior High School,	NCHEZOR PETER ONYEKA
Urban	Freetown	(5As)
West-		
Urban	Saline High School, Freetown	KPAKA JULIUS ALIE (5As)

We would like to wish all candidates, parents and most especially our teachers a big congratulations. We won't stop having expectations of you and ourselves because our future depends on it. Let's keep transforming education and learning for all!

Thank you.