ALL TESTS SHOW PRIVATE SCHOOLS OUT-PERFORM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Criterion Reference Tests showed the difference in the 1990s
- National Education Assessments in 2005 & 2007 showed significant gap in achievement
- The terminal Basic Education Certificate Examination is most important. It determines admission into Senior High Schools
Accra Private/Public

% Of Pupils

Private Schools

Public Schools

"6-10" "11-15" 16-20 21-25 26-30

Private Schools - Public Schools
ADMISSION INTO BETTER ENDOWED SCHOOLS MOST IMPORTANT. THESE SCHOOLS TAKE MOST PLACES IN UNIVERSITY ADMISSION IN BEST SUBSCRIBED COURSES

- Schools Ranked by proportion of Examination candidates qualifying for Tertiary Education

- Top 20% of Schools produced 75.7% in 2006, 76.0% in 2007, 71.8% in 2008 who qualified

- Bottom 20% of schools produced 1% in 2006, 0.9% in 2007, and 1.0% in 2008 who qualified.

- In 2000/2001, 50 Schools out of about 500 secondary schools produced 70% of students admitted into medicine, administration, architecture, engineering, etc at University of Ghana, and Kumasi University
FEE-PAYING SCHOOLS ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOLS EMERGED IN THE EARLY 1960s. BY 1970s WERE TAKEN OVER TOP SCHOOLS. BY 1980s TAKEOVER OF THESE SCHOOLS ALMOST COMPLETE

- Fee-free Public Primary and JSS have become schools for Majority of Ghanaian Children, the poor and rural communities. Private schools are for the elite.

- Fee paying school dominate schooling in urban areas; Cater for elite Ghanaians and all willing to pay for quality and invest for quality secondary education

- Chances for the children of the poor from deprived urban, rural communities, majority of Ghanaians in professional courses very limited. Opportunities almost closed for the poor. Social Mobility closed for children of similar background as present elite.
IS GHANA UNIQUE? WHO IS TO BLAME?

- Teachers blamed for inadequate teaching.
- Teachers blamed for rampant absenteeism
- Teachers blamed for refused postings to rural areas
- But society “looks” down on teachers. Many untrained in rural communities.
- The path for a teacher to obtain a degree is long!
- Life in countryside is “hard”
- GES is blamed for poor supervision
- But Ministry gives GES little room for autonomous operation as agency of the Ministry. Interference too much!
IS DISPARITY THE PRICE OF FREE EDUCATION WHEN GOVERNMENT RESOURCES ARE LIMITED?

- Capitation Grants for all take away needed resources! Capitation does not confer quality.
- School Feeding non-targeted takes away needed resources!
- Free schools uniforms take away needed resources!
- But Government loves to be Father Christmas!
- After Killing Bookshops a long time ago in the 1960s. Took books away from homes into school lockers!
Politics, policies and progress. It is not in our stars!

- What can be done about ill-prepared pupils from basic schools enrolling in poor secondary schools?
- Quota of 30% for local pupils to enrol in good schools. Could not be implemented. Heads of schools killed it.
- Universities allocating special quota for students from deprived communities! It is working and students are doing well!
- Increase the number of Quality Schools: One model secondary school in each of 200 District Assembly Areas. They cost money! 18 Schools delivered in 8 years. Ghana elite are products of Boarding Schools! They believe it.
- Increase duration of Senior High School from 3 to 4 Years! Former government introduced it by law in December 2008! New government has reversed decision! Reason! Money better spent to fix poor schools. And a Manifesto pledge!
- SO NOT IN OUR STARS!
PERFORMANCE IN WASSCE 2011

School Range | Percentage
--- | ---
01 - 058 | 41.4
059 - 116 | 22.2
117 - 174 | 11.2
175 - 232 | 9.4
233 - 290 | 5.5
291 - 348 | 3.8
349 - 406 | 3.2
407 - 464 | 1.7
465 - 522 | 1.3
523 - 576 | 0.4
PRESEC BASIC SCHOOL BECE

PRESEC School JSS

% of Pupils
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>No Sat</th>
<th>No Qualified</th>
<th>% Total Qualified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-86</td>
<td>Top 20%</td>
<td>29,589</td>
<td>12,389</td>
<td>75.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>87-172</td>
<td>2nd 20%</td>
<td>25,857</td>
<td>1,746</td>
<td>16.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>173-258</td>
<td>3rd 20%</td>
<td>18,339</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>4.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>259-344</td>
<td>4th 20%</td>
<td>16,190</td>
<td>322</td>
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<tr>
<td>345-429</td>
<td>5th 20%</td>
<td>19,310</td>
<td>167</td>
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</table>

109,285 15,375
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schools Rank</th>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>No. Sat</th>
<th>No. Qualified</th>
<th>% Total Qualified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-88</td>
<td>Top 20%</td>
<td>29,758</td>
<td>11,926</td>
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<td>89-176</td>
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<td>26,864</td>
<td>2,494</td>
<td>15.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>177-264</td>
<td>3rd 20%</td>
<td>20,967</td>
<td>779</td>
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<td>265-352</td>
<td>4th 20%</td>
<td>20,180</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>353-440</td>
<td>5th 20%</td>
<td>20,452</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>0.9</td>
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Total: 118,221 15,702
Thanks