Repositioning Libraries as Catalysts of Competency-Based Learning in Kenya

Preparedness, Challenges and Opportunities

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Presentation Outline

1. Introduction
- Curriculum changes in Kenya
- CBC Timeline (*Past, Present and future*)

2. The Library-CBC Equation
- Philosophy and Key tenets of CBC
- What a CBC library user want

3. Navigating the Path ahead
- Present Realities & Challenges
- Opportunities to Leverage
- Conclusion & Recommendations

4. Q &A

Introduction

Curriculum Changes in Kenya

01   **1967 - 7-4-2-3 System**

- **Adopted from the British colonial model.**

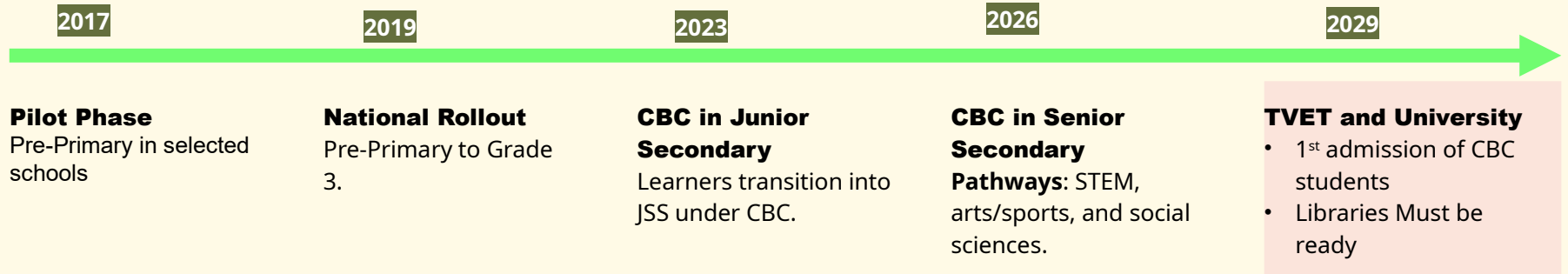- **Emphasized academics and elite progression.**

02   **1985 - 8-4-4 system**

- **Aimed to promote practical skills & self-reliance**

- **Criticized for being exam-oriented.**

03   **2017 – CBC 2-6-3-3-3 system**

- **Focus on competencies, values, and skills.**

- **Designed to address 21st-century challenges**

CBC - Major timelines

2017

2019

2023

2026

2029

Pilot Phase
Pre-Primary in selected schools

National Rollout
Pre-Primary to Grade 3.

CBC in Junior Secondary
Learners transition into JSS under CBC.

CBC in Senior Secondary
Pathways: STEM, arts/sports, and social sciences.

TVET and University
- 1st admission of CBC students
- Libraries Must be ready

Philosophy & Key Tenets of CBC

Holistic Development

Focuses on the head, heart, and hands

Lifelong Learning

Encourages continuous learning & development world challenges.

Outcome-Oriented

Measured by demonstrated competencies, not exam

Equity & Inclusivity

Recognizes different learning styles, needs, and abilities.
Seeks to leave no learner behind.

Learner-Centered Learning : Encourages active participation, & personalized learning

Emphasis on Core Competencies: eg Critical thinking, problem-solving, Digital Literacy, Learning to learn

Flexible Curriculum Pathways: Diverse learning tracks at senior levels (STEM, arts, social sciences).

Parental and Community Involvement: Parents and community are active partners in learning

""In what ways are CBC learners' needs different from those in 8-4-4 systems?"

Some Unique needs of CBC Users

1) Flexible Learning Environment
- *Quiet spaces,*
- *Open areas for group/creative activities,*
- *Discussion rooms*

## 2) Diverse, Learner-Centered Resources that Support Core Competencies
- *STEM, Arts, Arts and sports Science*
- *Critical thinking, Digital Literacy*
- *Inclusive and accessible Materials eg PWDs, languages*
- Innovation hubs or idea labs

3) Expanded mandate & frequency of trainings
- *Data literacy (RDM)*
- *Digital literacy (ICT tools, coding resources)*
- *Media Literacy (Fake, Fact Checking, Mis/Disinformation)*

4) Mentorship and Coaching Services
- *Host* Career mentorship talks/ programs
- individualized support services to complement class
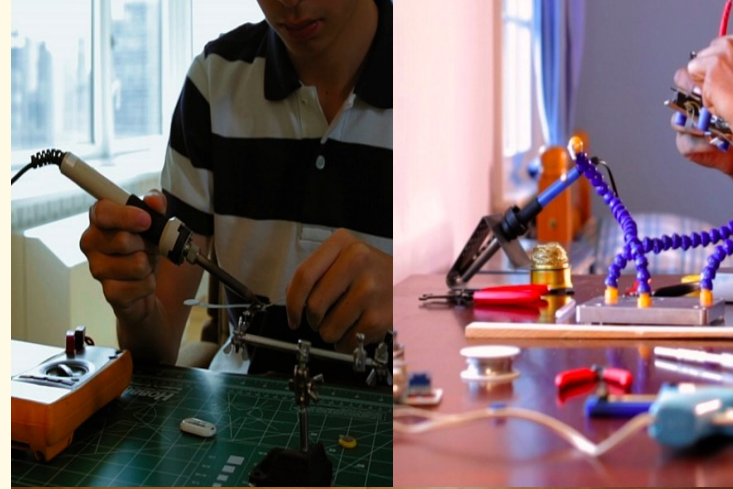
In what ways should libraries, librarians, library collection, services and products evolve to effectively support CBC

Present realities and Challenges

1) Budget Constraints

- *Tight budget limit acquisition, recruitment, training etc*

2) Inadequate Digital Infrastructure

- *Many libraries lack reliable internet, & ICT Infrastructure*

3) Inadequate staff Capacity

- *Lack/ Few Librarians with qualification and CBC pedagogy*
- *CBC Philosophy eg how to support project-based and learner-centered education.*

4) Limited Access to Diverse Learning Resources

- *Collections is textbook/ Journal focused*
- *Limited Support for Research and Project Work*

Present realities and Challe

5) Lack of Learner-Centered Spaces

- *Inadequate and Inflexible Library Spaces*
- *Current spaces limits collaboration, exploration, and hands-on learning*

6) Minimal Community and Parental Involvement

- *Only students are allowed to use the library*
- *Lack of connection with the community/ parents*

7) Limited/ Lack of collaboration with the Teaching/ Faculty

- *Teaching/ faculty are less involved in library operations*
- *Libraries are disconnected from real classroom needs.*

Opportunities to Leverage

01

CBC Committes & Budgets

Most institutions have or are in the process of establshing CBC committes/ Budgets – *Be strategic*

02

Experience in supporting Learners

Libraries have the history, framework, culture & personel to support learners – *Claim That*

03

Regulation & Policies

The transition offers and opportunity for regulators and Individual Institution to change Policies – ***Revise your policies***

Opportunities to Leverage

04

ICT Infrastructure

Most institutions have embraced ICT – **Leverage & Scale up** to introduce/ support more services;

05

Mixed skillset & Talents

Librarians have diverse & dynamic talents, interests, and skill sets – **Capacity Built and redeploy**

06

Membership to committes

Librarians are members of various descison making committees eg Management, Senate, deans, SGS, - **Advocate for the Library**

Conclusion & Recomendations

Libraries & Librarians **MUST** reengineer in the following areas;

1. **The Facility/ Spaces**

2. **ICT Infrastructure**

3. **The Resources/ Library Collection**

4. **Library Services**

5. **Librarians' skillset**

Thank you!