

Uneb orders 106 Kibaale pupils to repeat P7 over malpractice

BY SEGUJJA BYOMUGABI
& ALEX ASHABA

KIBAALÉ. Parents of pupils from Nyamarwa and Kitovu primary schools in Nyamarwa Sub-county, Kibaale District, have been left shocked after the Uganda National Examinations Board (Uneb) ordered 106 candidates to repeat Primary Seven following examination malpractice in the 2025 Primary Leaving Examination (PLE).

The affected pupils appeared before the Uneb Security Committee, in Kyambogo, Kampala on Tuesday, where they reportedly pleaded guilty to malpractice charges.

According to the committee, investigations confirmed that the candidates received external assistance while answering the Integrated Science paper.

During questioning, many of the pupils reportedly failed to explain why their answers were similar.

Following the hearing, Uneb cancelled the results of 106 candidates and directed them to repeat Primary Seven this year. Only two candidates had their results released after they were cleared of wrongdoing.

Uneb had earlier withheld results from Nyamarwa Primary School and Kitovu Primary School when the 2025 PLE results were released on January 30 following allegations of examination malpractice.

At Kitovu Primary School, the sitting centre, 26 candidates had registered for the examination, although one did not show up. Ten of the candidates at the centre were from Freedom City Muriika, a private school.

At Nyamarwa Primary School, 83 can-



What they say.

This is the first incident of its kind in the district, and it has affected our reputation. However, we ask head teachers to reduce the costs for

these pupils and treat them with care so that they regain confidence and continue studying.

— John Talagaboine, District Education Officer

didates were registered, many of whom came from nearby private schools, including Nyamarwa Progressive, Holy Rosary, St Peter's and God's Grace primary schools.

Mr Movad Muhumuza, the father of Movad Nuwamanya whose results were released, expressed relief after learning

that his son's results would finally be released.

"I was shocked when we first heard that the results from the centre had been withheld. We invested a lot of money throughout the school cycle, and my child had already lost hope," he said.

However, Mr Samson Barihikya, the father of Samuel Musinguzi whose results were cancelled, said the decision would force many families to incur additional education costs that they had already planned for secondary school.

"Having a child in a candidate class already comes with many expenses. Repeating the class means spending the same money again, sometimes even more," he said.

Mr Barihikya said his son had always performed well academically, making the cancellation of his results particu-

larly difficult for the family.

Head teachers from the affected centres, Mr Gerald Mugenyi and Mr Anthony Birimumaiso, said they had no option but to encourage the pupils to repeat the class and continue with their education.

"Following the decision of the Uneb Security Committee, we call upon parents not to give up but instead return the children to school. This is not the end of their education journey," Mr Birimumaiso said.

He added that the schools are ready to receive the pupils back and support them so that they can successfully complete Primary Seven.

The District Education Officer, Mr John Talagaboine, also urged school administrators to subsidise school fees for the affected pupils to ease the financial burden on parents.