Statement to the Legislative Assembly 3rd Meeting 2012/2013

By the Honourable Rolston Anglin, JP

Minister of Education, Financial Services and Employment

Education Capital Works Project: Completion of Upgrades to Primary Schools and Layman E. Scott Senior High School

15 March 2013



Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I inform you and this Honourable house that the Primary Schools Expansion Project and the upgrades to Layman E. Scott Senior High School in Cayman Brac are now completed. This project included new classroom blocks at Bodden Town Primary, Savannah Primary, George Town Primary, Sir John A. Cumber Primary Schools and Layman E. Scott Senior High School, and a new multipurpose hall at East End Primary School.

The project arose as a result of myself and the Chief Officer for Education touring all schools in our system in January and February 2010 and realising that aspects of the physical plant were interfering with optimal teaching and learning and/or student life. There was also a need for additional space at many schools to cope with rising enrolments and to provide much needed administration space and libraries. There was also a large stock of modular classrooms that existed across the education system that were raising health concerns for our students and teachers and they also contributed to increased energy costs relating to their operation as additional buildings.

As a result, a plan for improvement was put into place to solve the most pressing facilities concerns of schools in our system. This plan was included in the 3 year budget plan which was successfully negotiated and approved by the FCO Minister Responsible for the Overseas Territories.

This project which took approximately 2 years to complete has made huge improvements at our schools. The official opening dates, upgrades and costs of each building at each school are as follows:

• East End Primary School

- Building was officially opened on May 31st, 2011
- Construction of an assembly hall which doubles as their canteen, with an attached commercial kitchen on top of an existing classroom block
- Total cost: CI\$

• Layman E. Scott Senior High School

- Building was officially opened on May 4th, 2012
- Construction of two classrooms and one storage room for Physical Education Equipment
- Total cost: CI\$

George Town Primary School

- Building was officially opened on May 17th, 2012
- Construction of a two storey classroom and administration block, total of 17,510 square feet
- Building adds eight classrooms, a music room, a library, dental unit, staff lounge, and eight bathrooms

• Bodden Town Primary School

- Building was officially opened on November 8th, 2012
- Construction of a two storey classroom and administration block, total of 10,710 square
 feet
- Building adds six classrooms with self contained restrooms and storage rooms, a new library, and administration office
- Netball court was also rebuilt on site as part of this project
- Total cost: CI\$2,697,829.88

• Savannah Primary School

- Officially opened on November 15th, 2012
- Construction of a two storey classroom block, total of 12,638 square feet
- Building adds eight classrooms with self contained storage rooms and a new library
- Two modular classrooms were also removed from the site and one old classroom building on the site was renovated to house two additional classrooms
- The old library space has been converted to a Vice Principal's Office and two specialist rooms
- Entrance to the school has been relocated and a parking lot for teachers established to the east of the site
- Total cost: CI\$2,862,331.89

• Sir John A. Cumber Primary School

- Officially opened on February 27th, 2013
- Construction of two storey classroom room, total of 10,710 square feet
- Building adds eight classrooms each with its own restroom and storeroom, has the infrastructure for an intercom and a fully functioning intruder alarm
- Fully covered walkway was also constructed to connect the new building to the old schools buildings

In addition to what I just mentioned, all classrooms are also equipped with an interactive SMART Board, each building has a wheelchair lift for our students with special needs and all buildings are built to withstand up to a category three hurricane.

Therefore Madam Speaker, this entire project added X square feet of learning and administrative space for our schools and cost a total of X. Even though we can quantify the cost of these facilities, they are truly considered invaluable to the improved learning space they are providing at our schools and the healthier and safer environment they have created for our staff and students.

I would like to publically thank everyone involved in this project, especially the Ministry of Education team, Public Works Team, all contractors and subcontractors and to our Principals, teachers and students who have been so patient throughout the construction of their new buildings and helped get their new spaces up and running for use.

Thank you Madam Speaker.