



Press Release May 10, 2017

Deputy Prime Minister Inaugurates Grace Primary School Extension, Belize City

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports, and Area Representative, Hon Patrick Faber officially inaugurated Grace Primary School Extension, on Fabers Road, Collet Division on Wednesday May 10, 2017.

The Government of Belize in recognition of the critical role of education for social, economic, cultural, environmental and political development by way of empowering future leaders with knowledge, skills and values to enhance Belize's socio-economic development; funded the construction of Grace Primary School Extension at an estimated cost of **\$724,336.67** courtesy of a loan from the Caribbean Development Bank with counterpart funding from Government. The Parent Teachers Association in recognition of their role as a development partner in Grace Primary educational system in Belize's development contributed approximately **\$50,000.00** as counterpart funding for landfill at the new site, kitchen facility and monitoring support during implementation of the project.

The completion of the school project means that current and new Grace Primary School students will have even greater access to a better learning environment in a newly spacious and pleasant setting; and thus improved learning. It would also enable Grace Primary to address the increasing demand of enrollment and over-crowding.

The Scope of Works entailed the construction of a single storey reinforced concrete building measuring 121 feet long and 31 feet wide, complete with four classrooms, male and female students' bathrooms, teachers' lavatory, administrative space, lunch shed and an access ramp to accommodate students/visitors with diverse abilities. Other features include a verandah, reinforced aluminum louvered windows, security grilles, security grilles, timber doors, lunch shed with picnic tables. Additionally the sub-project provided office and computer equipment including a risograph along with laptops and projectors and a security surveillance system.

The completion of the new school building demonstrates the unwavering commitment of the Government of Belize; to "Achieve Universal Primary Education"

Belize Social Investment Fund is an implementing agency of the Government of Belize and collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports for the implementation of this school project as part of its mandate to work in line with the Government's strategy to address the basic needs of Belizeans in the areas of education, water, sanitation, health, human development and social transformation etc. Other officials at the event included the school's Principal, Ms Morna Sheppard, SIF's Executive Director, Mr William Lamb Jr, representatives of the PTA and residents of the community among

others.
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