

**ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY THE NEWLY ELECTED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF ST JOHN'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL
ILE IFE (SJOBA)**

Dear great Johnnians,

We wish to use this opportunity to thank you all for electing us into various executive positions for two years. Your votes is our mandate from you to take our Alma Mata to the next level through purposeful leadership.

According to McKinsey Quarterly, March 2016 Leading in the Digital Age involves "The automation of work and the digital disruption of business models place a premium on leaders who can create a vision of change and frame it positively."

By your votes, you have given us the responsibilities as leaders, to dictate the direction to go, the speed of movement and takes responsibility for the results and consequences."

According to John C. Maxwell, "Leadership is influence." This presuppose that you have placed on us responsibility to influence the great SJOBA members to always be the leading light.

This rests on four critical questions:

- What are the purposes and objectives of the organization?
- Where is the organization presently going?
- In what kind of environment does the organization now exist?
- What can be done to better achieve organizational objectives in the future?

Your mandate means we have to set the direction.

The in-coming EXCO, must ask pertinent and strategic questions like:

Where is the organization?

How did it get there?

Where does it want to go?

How does it intend to get there?

What resources are required to get there?

What value sets will drive the change process?

In order to deliver the expectations (i.e. organizational goals and objectives), the SJOBA, has to be organized in a manner that aligns the strategy with the expected outcomes.

Responsibilities have to be clearly adhered to; including

Who does what?

Authority levels

Who can approve what?

This involves getting our current constitution reviewed and improved upon and registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission and fully implementing its letters and spirit. We are committed to ensuring things get done by setting SMART objectives that objectives MUST be:

Specific

Measurable

Achievable

Realistic

Time-bound

The basic challenges that a leader faces can be itemized as:

Building and nurturing a winning team.

Keeping the focus.

Maintaining momentum.

Dealing with unpopular issues.

Taking the fire, shielding followers

Doing proper delegation.

Communicating effectively.

We realize that Leadership is action; we shall therefore collectively develop a positive and healthy bias for action. We shall collectively say no to the things that might want to divide us.

We promise responsible leadership that is for the benefit of the followers; communicate and give direction; empower others and let go and ensuring that we leave a good and befitting legacy. We realize that you will only follow us if you trust you us and we have a clearly defined and well communicated vision as outlined in our various manifestoes.

We therefore use this opportunity to thank the Electoral Committee, the current EXCO for a job well done, and all Johnians for giving us your mandate.

UT DILIGATIS INVICEM

Festus Odunayo Oshoba.