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Press Release

Geita Gold Mine Deepens Education Commitment with Additional School Investment

(Press Release) -- Nyankumbu Girls Secondary School, the largest girl’s school in the Geita District, marked its three-year anniversary with the opening of a well-equipped, modern library as part of its effort to provide an additional source of high-quality education for children in the region.

Geita District Council and Geita Gold Mine (GGM) joined forces to build a girl’s secondary school, with boarding facilities, to benefit both the region and the country. The school, which was officially opened in November 2014, is the result of a public-private partnership with GGM financing the Tsh 13Billion (US$6million) construction cost, the council providing the land and the Government of Tanzania assuming responsibility for its day-to-day administration.

“We continue to be a values-driven company that joins with our host Government at both a local and national level, to invest in people and in our communities,” said Simon Shayo, GGM’s Vice President for Sustainability. “Together, we aim to create sustainable futures that outlive our mining operations, and education is an area that is certain to make this happen.”

Through the investment in education and skills development, GGM seeks to aid Tanzania’s ambition of improving industrialization and elevating the economy to middle-income status. This is in harmony with the company’s intention of investing in sustainable economic development that outlasts mining activity, which by definition has a finite life. Since starting production from the mine almost two decades ago, GGM has aimed to show an unwavering commitment to its local patrons and stakeholders.

The school is a welcome addition to Tanzania’s public education system and offers both O level and A level examinations for its students. Last year, 89 graduates from Nyankumbu went on to study at tertiary educational institutions, according to Head Mistress Ms. Georgia Mgashe.

“With enough dormitories and classrooms, now both Advanced Level and Ordinary Level Students have enough time to stay at School and complete their assignments,” Ms. Mgashe said. “Among last year’s graduates, three students achieved division one, 38 division two and 48 reached division three.”

Refurbishment of the library, which included placement of contemporary books and cataloguing, was again sponsored by GGM and conducted by Tanzania-based READ International, a non-governmental organisation that seeks to improve access to education in East Africa.
Nyankumbu, which employs 53 teachers and 10 support staff, has enrolled over 860 students over the past three years. It has provided an environment conducive to learning and teaching, and will transform the lives the thousands of girls who in the past had to walk as far as 10km to attend school. It has also alleviated pressure on parents who would otherwise have had to pay for rental accommodation nearby. The school’s infrastructure includes a multi-purpose hall, high-quality classrooms and dormitories, well-equipped laboratories and six sports fields.

During the official launch of the library, Geita District Commissioner Hon. Herman Kapufi assured that the Government in Geita will continue working hand-in-hand with GGM, in support of its community projects.

Speaking at a press conference held in Geita Town recently, an alumna of Nyankumbu Girls Secondary School, Janeth Joseph (20), commended the school for making her dreams come true.

“The school has an advanced library and other amenities, including an abundance of accommodation for teaching and non-teaching staff,” said Ms. Joseph, who passed her Advanced Certificate of Secondary School in 2016 and is now pursuing her Bachelor of Arts degree at Saint Augustin Jordan University. “As a young girl with special needs, this was a perfect learning environment for me to pass my examination with flying colours.”

Ms. Joseph is currently doing her practical training at Nyankumbu, demonstrating that quality education nurtures better role models.

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Editor’s Note:

About Geita Gold Mine
AngloGold Ashanti’s indirect subsidiaries, Samax Resources Limited and Geita Gold Mining Limited (the subsidiaries) are parties to a Mine Development Agreement (MDA) in relation to the development and operation of the Geita gold mine in Tanzania (Geita Mine), which governs the relationship between the subsidiaries and the Government of Tanzania in relation to Geita Mine.

Geita Gold Mine is a world-class asset in Tanzania, contributing 1% towards the country’s Gross Domestic Product and prioritizing communal development and job security. Geita Gold Mine strives to be a responsible corporate citizen that works with the government and all stakeholders, while abiding by the laws and regulations of the country, to meaningfully contribute to a robust Tanzanian economy.

About AngloGold Ashanti
AngloGold Ashanti is one of the most important African investors in Tanzania. AngloGold Ashanti is a Pan-African champion and the largest producer of gold on the continent with operations in Tanzania, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Ghana and South Africa.
Janeth Joseph (20) preparing lesson Plan in her Practical Training in Nyankumbu Girls High School. She is one of the Nyankumbu alumnae pursuing Bachelor of Art with Education at Jordan University.