

PLE 2026... What an interesting concept!

The 2026 PLE results are out, and to put this gently, they are interesting. Even as non-parents, these results touched us all. Uneb seemed to be following Nameere in setting precedents. Leading the national conversation is Seeta Junior School, a relatively new player founded by the Minister of Education himself. This is the same minister whose Seeta High School story is now legend, so when Seeta Junior topped the country with all candidates in Division One, no one fainted. Impressive? Absolutely. Suspicious? Not yet.

Then the numbers arrived. Out of 140 candidates, 56 scored Aggregate 4... in a year when Aggregate 4s were reportedly rarer than honest politicians. In a year when Kampala's most elite schools could not produce even one. Celebration quickly

turned into squinting. The kind of squint that says, first relax, hollup! Anyways, congratulations Seeta Junior, *kibokos*, hardwork, luck or whatever it was, paid off.

Uneb's national picture did not help calm nerves. Out of 817,883 candidates, Aggregate 4 scores remained scarce, with Social Studies and RE dragging down many strong pupils, *mbu*. Boys outperformed girls in the top divisions, despite girls making up over half the candidates. English performed best, followed by Integrated Science and Mathematics. Fine. Not alarming.

Until you look at Kampala. Kampala Parents School; Zero Aggregate 4s. Kabojja – none. Greenhill both campuses – nothing. City Parents, Hormisdalen, Sir Apollo Kaggwa Old Kampala, all excellent pass rates, all zero perfect aggregates. Kampala

passed.

Meanwhile, Mukono and Wakiso were feasting. Northern Uganda showed up strong, with schools like Hilder in Gulu producing top scorers, including a leading female candidate. To complete the humiliation, a village church school in Mbarara outshone my old school, Savio Junior School, Kisubi. This year, urban parents swallowed hard.

Education officials point to competency-based learning reforms and cohort differences. Uneb's Dan Odongo urged calm, reminding us that every year behaves differently. Parents nodded politely, but did not buy it. Especially when you remember that Hillside Naalya, which produced 99 Aggregate 4s in 2022, produced zero this year. Kampala managed just 59 Aggregate 4s nationwide in 2026.