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**Teacher Preparedness for Implementation of the Competency-Based Curriculum and Its  
Implication to Kenya**

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**Abstract**

Education is like a parent of all occupations, which nurtures all others, including social work. It unlocks life opportunities as the weapon that fights enemies of humanity: illiteracy, poverty, and disease with the power to transform lives. The curriculum delivers education with the teacher as the driver who requires continuous renewal of delivery skills. Kenya is in the process of phasing out the 8-4-4 curriculum and phasing in the competency-based curriculum (CBC). A case study was conducted in a primary school in Narok county; selected because it had a champion teacher who trains others in a zone comprising 7 schools. The selected school had 16 teachers and 1000 pupils. All the teachers were trained on the implementation of CBC, 13 of them teach in CBC classes and 3 do not and the 13 in teaching CBC classes participated in the study. The objectives were to find out the teachers' awareness and appreciation of the reason for curriculum change; teachers' attitude towards the incoming competency-based curriculum; teachers' skills in effectively engaging learners and using resources in the classroom in a learner-centered environment; application of skills gained from professional development courses in the classroom; teaching and the teacher's assessment of learning outcomes. Data was collected from focus group discussions using an interview guide. Results indicated that teachers were not clear on the reasons for curriculum change but appreciated that CBC had more advantages over 8-4-4 in that every child explore and think critically and not just drill them to pass examinations. Teachers felt CBC introduction was abrupt with many demands on them and asked for sustained training and support for them enough for its implementation and assessment. They appreciated that the in-service training supports their classroom practice. Without effective teacher preparation for curriculum development, the country is in jeopardy of the enemies of humankind because education is as good or as bad as the teachers who implement it. This study recommends continuing school-based teacher support in CBC implementation.

