



Jabez Elementary & Junior High School Gordodin LPRC Community Ganta City, Nimba-Liberia *Blessed to be a Blessing.* Genesis 12:2

*Blessings and Welcome to Jabez Newsworthy Notes
from The USA Board of Directors of Jabez School, August 2026.*

August is a month when the school is not in session. We are taking this time to share some bigger picture thoughts with you.

A poem from Board Member Jolieth McIntosh stresses our love of children

Children, you are Special

*Precious children of the world,
When I observe you playing together,
learning in school together,
eating together,
having fun at a party together,*

*I think of an ice cream shop.
I see you as peach, vanilla, chocolate,
and other ice cream flavors.*

*Each one is different,
yet each one is special.
Children, like ice cream,
whatever flavor you are,
you are special.*



Queen Faith Bumie practicing her leadership skills with her classmates.

Blessings! The process of healing is a personal journey that involves reconciling with the past, rebuilding trust, and navigating the complexities of grief and loss. Moreover, addressing the economic repercussions of war is vital for the healing of victims. You can help Jabez do just that! We appreciate the teachers so much and are praying for them and the kids. **Jabez is a 501(c)3 organization. Please make checks payable to Jabez Christian School and send to Jerry Andersen (Board Treasurer), 6420 W. Hwy G., Caledonia, WI 53108.**



The food situation has not yet improved We are still trying to work with the World Food Program, but the local representatives are promising one amount and delivering less. Jabez experienced signing up for a month's supply of 30 bags of 100 pounds of rice accompanied by other nutritional ingredients. Instead of receiving the total order, only 12 bags were delivered with no explanation of the difference. We expect fairness. There is also pressure to become a government school which would bring its own set of problems.

The Board USA stresses that one of our values is to be a Christ-led and focused independent community school and another is to feed our children and teachers. These values are not negotiable. The market place may be the best place to find stable pricing and honest quantities. Rev. Jakes and another staff member are looking for other vendors and will be checking market places too. Food is an important part of being able to do your best. The Board is determined to find the funds to keep our children and teachers healthy.

What is the educational system in Liberia ? The Ministry of Education is responsible for implementing educational policies and regulations. The basic education is considered to be a 12-year system with children starting school at age 6. The target for the school year is 206 academic days. They also adjust the schedule to align with the rainy season as during that time many children have difficulty getting to school.

Elementary school is six years in duration running from grade one through six (ages 6-12). Junior High is 3 years for grades seven through nine (ages 12-15). Senior High is 3 years for grades ten through twelve (ages 15-18). Upon completion of secondary school, students sit for the West African Examination Council Certificate Examination (WASSCE) which gives them access to higher education. This credential is equivalent to a U.S. high school graduation diploma.

Often children do not get started when they are six years old. Their parents may not be able to afford the fees or there might not be a school near enough to their village. If they do start when they are older, the age difference in the early grades may not be too noticeable but as they progress, the physical size difference may become a barrier causing many of these children to drop out. This is one of the reasons Jabez School has implemented the after school program for the younger children. Getting a quality start is very important in helping students to be able to continue to complete high school.

According to news reports, three major reasons that children are not progressing in this post-conflict time is lack of qualified teachers, poor infrastructure, and high-overage enrollment. Jabez is working in all three of these areas. Our facilities are very good, continuous teacher training is part of faculty development, our teachers have a Christian heart, and we are focusing on children getting an early and great start. **Jabez School King Perry Kerkulah is one of those children able to start school at an early age.**

Jabez is a Christ-centered school which operates with faith, reverence, humility and thankfulness. Jabez's ministry and mission are solely based on faith in God's Providence. Jabez encourages thankfulness to God for all its missional tasks and accomplishments.

