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The Ministry of Education

# News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MINISTER BETHEL TOURS CAT ISLAND SCHOOLS

**Nassau, The Bahamas, Monday 4th, May 2009.** The Minister of Education, the Honourable Carl W. Bethel, along with Ms. Sherylee Smith, Acting Permanent Secretary, and Mr. Lionel Sands, Acting Director of Education, took a one day whirlwind tour of the schools in Cat Island to hear and address concerns, and to encourage the students to study hard, and to read often, so that they may achieve their dreams through excellence in education.

The Minister and his delegation visited New Bight Primary School, where he assured the administrators, teachers and students that Cat island students would get the same level of quality education as those in New Providence and in Grand Bahama. After encouraging the students to obey their parents and to study hard, the team was off to the Old Bight Primary and Pre-School, Old Bight High School, Bennett's Harbor Primary School, Dumfries Primary School, and finally Arthur's Town High School.

The Minister entertained questions from the students, whose concerns ranged from needing more text books, to wanting an auditorium. He congratulated the students for having the winning debate team two years in a row in the national debate competition, and indicated that Cat Island had a great history of education being known for rearing some of the most intellectual people in The Bahamas. Minister Bethel encouraged the students to carry on this tradition, and indicated that if they worked diligently to maintain their good grades, the Government of The Bahamas, and the Ministry of Education will do its best to support them through a range of scholarships, educational grants and loans and special awards. The Minister told the students that no matter where life led them, he expected them to always love their home, and to return after studying to take Cat Island to another level.

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