**“Show your talents”**

**Comprehensive School Emsland shares its happiness with partner school in** **Ghana**

The Comprehensive School Emsland has reason to celebrate: For some weeks now the electricity supply of the Ghanaian partner school “CTE” has been secured permanently thanks to a photovoltaic system.

By André Partmann

Lingen. This was possible thanks to donations to the support association “CTE School-Partnership-Verein Ghana” founded a year ago.

“Show your talents” is another meaning of “Centre for Talent Expression” (CTE) which is designed to offer to the poorest of the poor a chance to acquire a profession in order to enable them to make their own living. The school in the town of Winneba was founded in 2006 by music professor Morphius Eurapson-Quaye as a so-called NGO educational facility which means that the school must be fully funded by donations.

Since the founding of the educational facility a large part of the donations flowed from the Emsland to Ghana. The background to this is that since 1999 school headmaster Morphius Eurapson-Quaye regularly visits Emslandic schools, offers drumming workshops, and holds music sessions with the students. For his work he receives an expense allowance which he provides to his Ghanaian school.

The contact was established by music teacher Clemens Vollmer of the Comprehensive School Emsland – and after several visits from Ghana this has developed into a true partnership. In August 2016 on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the CTE a delegation of the Comprehensive School Emsland visited the school in Winneba.

The special aspect about this was the inauguration of a new boarding school building. “This was fully funded by donations from the Emsland area”, reports Comprehensive School headmaster Weber as part of an inter-cultural exchange and barbecue evening, to which he had invited parents and students. The Comprehensive School had contributed significant funds to the financing of the building by organizing a fundraising gala and many additional campaigns.

The visit to Ghana left a deep impression with Martin Weber: “We reached the point where we figured we had to do more”, recalls the Comprehensive School headmaster. A support association was founded, new projects were started. “Only the regular contributions of the association made a plannable and reliable support of the CTE possible”, says Weber.

About a year after its founding the support association has achieved a first milestone. Some weeks ago the project “battery-backed photovoltaic system” could be realized with the help of the organization “Engineers Without Borders” which also worked out the suitable offer. “Roundabout half of the 23,000 € system is already paid for, the other half will be financed in small steps”, states Weber.

Since June 2017 the Comprehensive School Emsland hosts the instructor of the carpenters at the CTE, Joseph D. Mensah, for a traineeship. After the two major projects the topic water supply enjoys highest priority of the support association. Also local public transportation is supposed to be improved.