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**UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY- AFRICA**

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**MIDTERM PROJECT**

**TITLE**

**SHULE-FINDER**

**A WEB PLATFORM THAT HELPS PARENTS AND GURDIANS FIND SUITABLE SCHOOLS**

**Vision Statement**

The *Shule Finder* project envisions a transformative shift in how educational choices are made across Kenya. In an environment where critical information about schools is often scattered, incomplete, or difficult to interpret, Shule Finder seeks to become the definitive digital platform that bridges the gap between schools and families. By consolidating vital data about institutions—such as curriculum type, location, fees, performance, and infrastructure—into one accessible and user-friendly platform, this system empowers parents, students, and guardians to make informed, evidence-based decisions about their educational futures.

At its core, the vision of Shule Finder is to **democratize access to educational information**, ensuring that every family, regardless of socio-economic status or geographic location, can access reliable data on schools that align with their academic and developmental goals. This project not only addresses a practical societal challenge but also aligns with broader national and global educational development goals, such as inclusivity, equity, and quality education for all, as outlined in the UN Sustainable Development Goal 4.

Through this platform, we aim to support:

* **Parents and guardians** in evaluating school options more transparently.
* **Educational institutions** in showcasing their offerings and achievements.
* **Policy makers and researchers** in understanding educational distribution and accessibility.
* **Local communities** in building stronger educational support networks.

**Goals of Shule Finder**

1. **Information Centralization**:  
   Create a centralized repository of verified data on primary and secondary schools in Kenya, categorized by school type, location, curriculum, and other relevant criteria.
2. **Enhanced Search and Filtering**:  
   Enable users to search, filter, and compare schools using criteria that matter most to them (e.g., fees, boarding vs. day, religious affiliation, exam performance, co-curricular activities).
3. **User-Centric Experience**:  
   Provide a seamless and intuitive user interface that caters to a wide range of digital literacy levels, ensuring that both tech-savvy and first-time users can navigate the system effectively.
4. **Equity and Access**:  
   Ensure the platform highlights a diversity of schools, including public, private, faith-based, and community-run institutions, thereby leveling the playing field for underrepresented or underserved communities.
5. **Stakeholder Collaboration**:  
   Develop partnerships with schools, education ministries, and local NGOs to maintain up-to-date and credible data, while encouraging institutional participation and transparency.
6. **Scalability and Sustainability**:  
   Design the system architecture in a modular and scalable manner, allowing for future enhancements such as parent reviews, alumni ratings, and integration with education-related government APIs or school performance dashboards.
7. **Data Security and Ethics**:  
   Maintain the highest standards of data protection, transparency, and ethical handling of school and user data, ensuring compliance with applicable data protection laws.
8. **Mobile Accessibility**:  
   Ensure that the platform is mobile-responsive and functional across various devices, given the high mobile internet penetration rate in Kenya.