“If you don’t check yourself your standards will be the same as your height.” Those words ran through my head as she put her hands forward and grabbed the side of my blazer to pin the badge right where everyone could see it. Raising one hand to take the oath, I was scared. I was no longer the assistant I now became the boss. The words I recalled were painful but I couldn’t tell what it was, an insult or an advice. I now seat in authority to rule an institution that was slowly falling apart.

Laying in bed just thinking about what would become of me, a ding on my phone, it was someone I dreaded the most, the he texted to share his ideas of how he could “fix” the school. I was irritated so I responded “what’s the point of all this” he said “we made a promise didn’t we” I sent a emoji showing my lack of interest, turned my phone off and closed my eyes. I tried I really did all the thoughts of disappointed comment and the unsatisfied faces kept coming. I slept off with a down heart.

The next morning came quick and I picked up my phone and texted him, something I could never find myself doing, and asked what do you have in mind for our school I got a response it was fast and long. His definition of change was nice but his approach wasn’t, so I helped.

Now September as come and from the first week we took action. I week, 2 weeks, 3weeks nothing had happened. I was angry I tried so hard. I turn to the head boy and said “it’s been three weeks nothing happened’ to which he replied “it is your idea you. don’t you trust yourself?”. As I sat in class, I realized the answer to the question “no.” I had to be patience, everybody expected me to be perfect so I decided I should be perfect taking the notion that I could accept mistakes from everyone but not myself. from that day I walked harder I talked the prefects on a weekly bases, showed appreciation for everything that was done even the mistakes made, I yelled less and I was determined to make a change in me and the others.

Through my extremely tight schedule I joined clubs activities like friends of nature in this we promoted sanitation within the school and outside, to improve social life of my school I wrote down a requested for a debates to be held within the school ground for all the 10 catholic school, stood up and thought students having academic issues, headed most the hostel affairs, became more organized, thought of new ways to handle problems, took in every nasty comment as a guide and trained the assistants giving them a path we never had. During this time of building myself I learn to appreciate my mistakes, assure myself, set goals, lead a team, tolerate people and become a changemaker.

Slowly, the comments stopped and changed to heartfelt remarks which gave me warmth. while coming out of the hall where are headteacher congratulated us on the work we had achieved so far I turned to the head boy and said “thank you,” “what for he asked and I repeated my thank you to him.

Now as a lay on my bed I look and recall those words “if you don’t check yourself your standard will be the same as your height” before I dreaded hearing it because out of all that I have been told this cut deep. Now the wound is there to remind be of what I once was and what I have become now. I now realize that this wasn’t an insult but an advise.