

## **The Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for the Expansion of the Belize High School of Agriculture Project**

On March 11th, 2016, Second Secretary Mr. Hideki Shinozaki, attended the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony of the “Project for Expansion of the Belize High School of Agriculture” at the Belize High School of Agriculture in Orange Walk, Belize. The project is funded by the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects by the Government of Japan.

The school was founded in 1984. The school has an overcrowding situation due to the increasing number of applicants. Therefore they could not accept 70 applicants in the 2015 school year. The grant will be used to build a new building which contains two classrooms and a library to provide better educational environment. Also the school is planning to use the building as a designated disaster shelter which can accommodate up to 75 persons.

Among the about 70 attendees at the Signing Ceremony were the Hon. Patrick Jason Faber, Minister of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture, Mr. Monty Sadarangani, Honorary Consul-General of Japan and Mr. Kensuke Inoue, President of Japanese Society in Belize. Minister Faber, other guests and participants expressed their appreciation for the grant provided by the Government of Japan in its quest to provide an improved educational facility in Orange Walk. They also expressed their appreciation to the Japanese Government for having been sending volunteers in the field of education and community development through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Emphasizing the importance of education, Mr. Shinozaki hoped that this project could contribute to developing agricultural sector which is the main industry in Belize through educating capable leaders in the sector.



(left) Signing the Contract by Second Secretary Shinozaki as a witness and Principal Mrs. Delgado

(right) Minister Faber expresses his appreciation for the grant



A short skit by students



A dance by Students