

MEDIA RELEASE KZN school violence: PSA concerned about employees' safety

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The recent spate of violent incidents at schools in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), where an educator was gunned down in cold blood at a school in Folweni, South of Durban, and another educator being assaulted at a school in Hammersdale, West of Durban, bears testimony to the fact schools are unsafe with a need to deploy more security personnel.

The Public Servants Associations (PSA) that represents thousands of educators, pointed out that the Department of Education's expectation of educators to perform under circumstances where their lives are in danger, is a serious reflection on the Department's abilities. The Department has an obligation to provide a safe working environment where its employees are protected and thus creating a conducive teaching-learning environment.

The PSA called on the KZN Department of Education to act decisively in addressing and curbing violence in schools and to restore the culture of teaching and learning. The Union sent an urgent letter to the Provincial MEC for Education, requesting for an urgent meeting to discuss measures to safeguard its members. The PSA will also table an input to the Bargaining Chamber to increase security personnel at schools.

END