

MEDIA RELEASE **PSA condemns corruption in Gauteng Department of Education Schools**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA), representing more than 235 000 public-sector employees, is appalled by the level of corruption in the Gauteng schooling system.

Recent media reports showed that certain schools in the province are paying grossly inflated prices for personnel protective equipment (PPE) and schools disinfecting. The PSA is extremely concerned about the continuous corruption in schools. Schools are currently experiencing a shortage of PPE whilst some government officials are misusing the taxpayers' money for personal gain. It is well documented that schools in rural areas are understaffed and do not have the required infrastructure to enhance quality learning, yet the Department overspends COVID-19 measures without questions being raised.

The PSA thus welcomes the suspension and disciplinary action against three senior managers of the Gauteng Department of Education and Youth Development who were implicated in the mismanagement of funds for the decontamination of schools in Gauteng.

The PSA will continue the Union's efforts to ensure that the employer remains compliant with occupational health and safety standards and rooting out corruption in Gauteng. The PSA calls on the Gauteng Department of Education to finalise the investigation into the misuse of funds and assist authorities to prosecute those responsible.

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