

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA condemns shooting at Mawelewele Primary School in KwaZulu-Natal
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The Public Servants Association of South Africa (PSA) is disturbed by a recent shooting incident at Mawelewele Primary School, in Klaarwater outside Pinetown in KwaZulu-Natal, which resulted in the injury of an educator.

The incident involved employees of the School and suspected robbers, which left an educator and a gunman injured. According to reports, armed men entered the school premises and robbed employees of their cellphones and laptops. As the perpetrators attempted to flee, an exchange of gunfire ensued between educators, security personnel, and the suspects. Two persons were injured in the incident. An educator was allegedly shot and received medical attention before paramedics arrived at the scene. The second individual, believed to be one of the suspects, suffered multiple gunshot wounds and was treated by paramedics.

The PSA is extremely concerned about the safety of educators, support staff, and learners. The PSA therefore calls on communities to actively participate in community police forums and collaborate with the South African Police Service (SAPS) to ensure the protection of schools and health facilities targeted by criminals. The PSA further urges the KwaZulu-Natal MEC of Basic Education to conduct a thorough risk assessments in all schools. It is of utmost importance to equip security guards with the necessary resources and training to effectively respond to criminal incidents.

The PSA calls on the SAPS Provincial Commissioner and the MEC of Community Safety to coordinate efforts to combat organised crime and safeguard the well-being of workers and communities. The increase in criminal activities observed in KwaZulu-Natal necessitates a swift and aggressive response from government. The safety and security of communities should be prioritised by implementing effective strategies to decrease crime. The PSA stands firmly against acts of violence and crime and remains committed to working in collaboration with relevant authorities and stakeholders to create safer environments for all South Africans.

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