



The PSA is very concerned about educators who suffer from various medical conditions such as hypertension, diabetes asthma and others that places them at higher risk should they be infected. With more than 100 000 educators with some form of comorbidity it will place tremendous strain on the remaining educators to conclude the academic year. This will further be accentuated should an outbreak occur in a school and educators needs to be placed in isolation. Two COVID-19 positive cases were already identified in the first two days after educators had to return and with more set to return it is only a matter of time before schools become the epicentre of the virus. With a shortage of educators in South Africa a mass infection amongst them will only be disastrous for the future of quality education for learners.

The statement from the Minister of Basic Education that all stakeholders were consulted on the opening of schools, this is totally devoid from the truth. The PSA have made numerous attempts to ensure that they are consulted and have brought its concerns and input to the attention of the Minister without any response.

The PSA maintains its stance the schools needs time to prepare and ensure compliance, its only sensible that the school calendar be amended to resume schooling from October to June 2021.

END