

FOR PSA MEMBERS: LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

28-04-2020

Feedback: COVID-19 teleconference meeting

The meeting took place on 25 April 2020 and the following issues were discussed:

Screening of employees

The Department of Health indicated that it will not be able to administer weekly screening at schools as requested owing to staffing challenges.

School reopening

The Department is ready for school reopening, provided only Grade-12 learners can return to school whilst others can follow later and the proposal was submitted to the Provincial Command Council for ratification. The Memorandum for procurement of PPE is awaiting approval with washable cloth masks, digital thermometers and gloves to be procured. Special schools such as Grace and Hope, Correctional Services Centres and LEDET will be considered to ensure support of local economy. It was further resolved that all classrooms should have sanitising buckets for washing of hands.

Review: Committee composition

It was agreed that the Curriculum Branch should form part of the committee as it deals with teaching and learning in classrooms.

Applications for permits

The application for permits during lockdown will be adjudicated and recommended by the COVID-19 Committee for HOD approval. The permit form was corrected to include the name of the HOD after the designation and the duration.

Officials returning to work during lockdown

The PSA raised concern about the recalling of non-essential/critical employees to work without justifiable cause. The employer must provide statistical information on the number and categories of employees who returned to employment. All employees who are found to be non-essential/critical must have their permits revoked and be subjected to lockdown. All other employees will henceforth be recalled on the recommendation of the COVID-19 Committee, pending approval of the HOD.

Burglaries at schools during lockdown

A concern was raised regarding the increase of burglaries at schools in the province. It was resolved that the security cluster will be engaged to ensure that security is reinforced at schools. The next meeting was scheduled for 27 April 2020.

Members are urged to submit concerns regarding non-compliance with COVID-19 Regulations through WhatsApp on 083 538 8214 or 076 603 0070.

GENERAL MANAGER