

Feedback: Vaccine rollout meeting – 30 July 2021

The PSA, other unions, and all stakeholders had a virtual meeting on 30 July 2021 to receive feedback on the vaccine rollout plan for Educators and Support Staff in the Limpopo Department of Education.

The MEC appreciated the cooperation and collaboration of stakeholders to ensure the success of the vaccination programme, which resulted in the Limpopo Province exceeding its national target by 12 037. The National Department had set a target for the Province to vaccinate 61 572 employees and managed to vaccinate 73 609. The Province managed to achieve this success despite being allocated on Fridays and Saturdays because of the dedication and commitment of all stakeholders. Educators and non-teaching staff who have not vaccinated for one reason or the other must still be urged to take the vaccine. The stakeholders positively responded to the call to 'drop it all and vaccinate' and the program covered foodhandlers and cleaners who were initially not on the list of employees to be vaccinated. The Department will be embarking on the vaccination of 1 950 learners who are over 18 years old.

The MEC further cautioned that although the vaccination process is managed successfully, ample work lies ahead, particularly that all primary school learners will be going back to school from 2 August 2021. The infrastructure challenge is acknowledged and cannot be resolved instantly, however, the Department is attempting to obtain mobile classes. Currently, the Department managed to provide 338 mobile classes to 58 schools, which is not enough but the budget constraints do not make it possible to procure more. Schools have been given money to procure COVID-19 essentials such as thermometers, santiisers and masks. Provided water tanks must be constantly refilled to ensure continuous water supply. 455 schools were provided with chemical toilets. Further, filling of vacancies for Educators will be prioritised to ensure provision of quality education.

Employees who want to join the PSA and members with challenges can contact the ELRC Provincial Secretary: Matlala on bophelobjannete@gmail.com. Alternatively, contact the PSA's Organising/Marketing Officers: Paulina.moloto@psa.co.za and lawrence.muvhango@psa.co.za or call the PSA Office on (015) 295 0500. Members will be updated on developments.

GENERAL MANAGER