

FOR PSA MEMBERS: LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

02-03-2022

## What is happening in Limpopo schools?

The PSA represents educators in Limpopo and remains committed to protecting and promoting members' rights and interests. Members raised issues and the PSA intervened as follows:

### Primary School falling under Mopani West

Members complained regarding ill treatment of employees and abuse of power by the Principal, which makes the employment environment not conducive for optimum work performance. The Principal allegedly sidelined even the SGB, with suspected mismanagement of funds owing to a lack of oversight. The Principal was also accused of non-compliance with the recruitment policy. A meeting was subsequently held between the District, Circuit, the PSA, SGB, and School Management team where it was resolved that the Principal and SGB Chairperson must act in accordance with the provision of law that governs both their responsibilities and duties. An allegation of financial mismanagement will be investigated by the Department. The PSA further assisted the aggrieved member to file a grievance after the Circuit Manager failed to decisively intervene in the matter.

### Secondary School falling under Mopani West

The Principal was evicted by the SGB and a small group of parents, which led him to start reporting at the Circuit office owing to allegations of misappropriation of funds. Further, the Circuit manager instructed him to stop signing the attendance register at the office and instead to look for a school where he can work as an Educator, which was tantamount to demotion. Both the District and Circuit had no authority to transfer the employee as it is the responsibility of the Head of the Department. It was subsequently agreed that the Principal must continue to report at the Circuit while the matter is being addressed. He must be allowed to sign the attendance register to prove his work attendance while the Circuit must engage the SGB wherein their election and composition was questionable in an effort to resolve the deadlock between the Principal and the SGB. Lastly, the Circuit manager must redesign the job description of the Principal while still reporting at the Circuit office. The Principal must eventually go back to school to do the job that he was employed to do.

GENERAL MANAGER