



education

DEPARTMENT: EDUCATION
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

TO : NEWS EDITORS

FROM : MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DATE : 04 MARCH 2013

SUBJECT : PLANS TO ADDRESS SCHOOL FURNITURE SHORTAGES

The Mpumalanga Department Education has put systems in place to address the shortage of school furniture in the province. This initiative comes after the Department has identified schools in the province currently experiencing shortages of furniture.

These plans are to ensure that all schools have enough furniture for both learners and educators. The department has allocated **R1.7 million** to each of the four districts respectively, to procure school furniture before the end of March 2013.

“Teaching and learning must take place in all our schools without any hindrance and the lack of furniture is one of the aspects that creates challenges in the delivery of education. School furniture is a basic need and as a department we want to work around the clock to ensure that we address the shortage of furniture in all our schools.

*There is **R30 million** budgeted for the procurement of school furniture in the next financial year, 2013/14 and I would like to call upon educators, learners, parents and school communities to look after the future and safeguard it against vandalism and theft. Lets work together towards ensuring that the furniture in our schools remains in a very good condition,” said the MEC, Mrs Reginah Mhaule.*

There are schools that received furniture some years ago and the furniture got damaged and thus need to be replaced. The shortages in some schools are a result of the increase in their enrolment as compared to the previous years.

Addressing the shortages of school furniture is a priority. The four districts were encouraged to identify all the schools that are in dire need of furniture and ensure that they are in the list of schools to receive furniture by the end of March this year.

The districts have since responded to this directive and are on course in ensuring that all the identified schools receive their furniture by the end of March. As a department we will monitor the processes closely and are convinced that the deliveries will be completed on time.

Issued by the Communication Directorate

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