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**TO : THE NEWS EDITORS**

**FROM : THE MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**DATE : 16 MARCH 2015**

**SUBJECT : DEPARTMENT CONCERNED OVER UNSATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE OF PARENTS DURING THE ELECTIONS OF SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES.**

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It has come to the attention of the Department that in some quarters parents are not attending the meetings called by schools to discuss the processes relating to the Elections of School Governing Bodies (SGB).

This is of great concern taking into account the significant role played by the SGB in improving the conditions of Learning and Teaching in schools. These democratically elected structures are critical to:

- Improving the Quality of Education in schools.
- Ensuring that there is good governance.
- Advancing the democratic transformation of our society.
- Ensuring that schools serve the interest of the community and meet the expectations of parents.
- Combating Racism, Sexism and all forms of unfair discrimination and intolerance in schools.

*“The participation of parents in the education matters of their children helps to improve the delivery of quality education. It is for this reason that we encourage parents to participate actively in the election of school governing bodies”.*

*“Parents must take the elections of School Governing Bodies seriously as it provides them with an opportunity to elect capable people to positively contribute towards peaceful and progressive school governance. Said the MEC, Reginah Mhaule.*

The election of school governing bodies started on 06 March 2015 and will proceed until 28 March 2015.

The Department is making a clarion call to parents to avail themselves to be elected or to elect other parents to the School Governing Bodies.

For more information in this regard parents can contact Mr Jabu Mabuza on 082 754 0126 or 013 766 0909 during office hours.

Issued by the Mpumalanga Department of Education.

For more information please contact Jasper Zwane on 083 743 1804 or [j.zwane@education.mpu.gov.za](mailto:j.zwane@education.mpu.gov.za)