

## MEDIA RELEASE

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**TO NEWS EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS**  
**FROM THE MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
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### **PARENTS OF VOLKRUST PRIMARY SCHOOL TO SAFEGUARD THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN**

The Mpumalanga Department of Education urges all parents to consider the plight of their children by ensuring that they are in class learning when schools reopen on Tuesday, 10 October 2023. Some members of the community in Volksrust disrupted classes before schools closed for the third term, demanding that the Department commence with the construction of the second phase of the school.

A sequel of meetings were held with the School Governing Body, and the Department explained that the second phase will be built in the 2026/27 financial year. There is currently no overcrowding at the school since its learner classroom ratio is 1:37, which is favorable and within the Department's norms and standards.

Volksrust Primary School has 810 learners in 22 classrooms (15 brick and mortar classrooms and 7 mobile classrooms). The Department remains committed to constructing the second phase of the school, which will include an administration block and additional brick and mortar classrooms, in the 2026/27 financial year.

There are only 20 days remaining before the class of 2023 sits for their final examinations. It is therefore essential that all learners focus on their studies during this time. Failure to do so will deprive learners of their constitutional right to education.

Parents are therefore urged to ensure that their children are in school and in class learning every school day. The Department will continue to engage with relevant stakeholders and to monitor the situation in Volksrust closely.

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