

**TO : NEWS EDITORS**

**FROM : MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**DATE : 27 SEPTEMBER 2010**

**SUBJECTS : SCHOOLS SACRIFICED HOLIDAYS TO CATCH UP**

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The Mpumalanga Department of Education appreciates that almost all schools in the Province have sacrificed their Spring Holidays in support of the Catch Up Programme.

Learners from Grade One to Twelve are attending normally from today until 01 October 2010.

This follows a directive from the Department that schools are afforded an opportunity to continue with teaching and learning from 27 September to 01 October 2010. This will enable schools and learners to recover on lost time, complete the syllabi and fill the learning gaps.

This arrangement is only applicable to schools which were affected by the protracted strike by educators.

The Department has also established learning centres that are operational on Saturdays and Sundays for Grade 12 learners. These centres started on 25 September 2010 and are running without serious glitches.

In addition, the Department is satisfied that the overall writing of Preliminary Examinations went well in the Province. The Preliminary Examinations started on 13 September and ended on 23 September 2010.

There were very few incidents of disruptions reported but were well managed by school principals.

**End**

Issued by the Communication Directorate.

For Inquiries please contact Mr. Jasper Zwane at 083 743 1804.