KZN CIRCULAR NO 58 OF 2012

ADMISSION OF LEARNERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN KWAZULU-NATAL FOR 2013

1. Section 3 of the South African Schools Act, No 84 of 1996, as amended, places the responsibility on the Head of Department to ensure that all learners of compulsory school going age are enrolled at and attend school. Furthermore, the Admission Policy for Ordinary Public Schools which was published in General Notice No 2432 on 19 October 1998, places the responsibility for the administration of admission of learners to public schools on the Head of Department. This function has been delegated to principals of schools.

2. This circular is intended to draw the attention of school governing bodies, principals of schools and all relevant officials of the Department to the following key statutes to be considered when developing and implementing school admission policies for the admission of learners for 2013:

2.1 Sections 3 and 5 of the South African Schools Act, No 84 of 1996, as amended

2.2 Admission Policy for Ordinary Public Schools, General Notice No 2432, of 19 October 1998

2.3 Regulations relating to the admission of learners to public schools (excluding industrial and reform schools) published in the as Provincial Notice No 74 in the Provincial Gazette No 5262 of 5 March 1998

2.4 Learner Admission Policy for Public Schools in KwaZulu-Natal: KZN Circular No 99 of 2006

2.5 Establishment of Learner Admissions Committees in Districts: KZN Circular No 37 of 2010

3. Principals of schools are hereby reminded that the Head of Department has not determined feeder zones for public schools in KwaZulu-Natal, in terms of clause 33 of the National Admission Policy for Ordinary Public Schools. In the absence of feeder zones, section 34 of the same policy document does not apply to schools in KwaZulu-Natal. Principals of schools must therefore ensure that admission policies of public schools do not determine an order of preference for learner admission based on feeder zones.

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4. Clause 7 of the Admission Policy for Ordinary Public Schools directs the school governing body to make a copy of the school's admission policy available to the Head of Department. Circuit Managers are hereby requested to ensure that they have verified the admission policies of schools under their jurisdiction and ensure that these comply with the provisions of the South African Schools Act and all applicable provincial legislation.

5. The date for all public schools to have completed their learner admissions for 2013 is 31 October 2012. All public schools are obliged to adhere to this date to ensure that effective teaching and learning commences on the first day of school in 2013. Principals of schools, working collaboratively with members of school governing bodies must communicate their 2013 learner admissions management plans with the school community and impress upon them the need to observe such timeframes.

6. The co-ordination of placement of learners in public schools has been delegated to District Managers, as chairpersons of District Admissions Committees. Any queries related to admission of learners in preparation for 2013, which could not be resolved at Circuit level, must then be directed to the District Admissions Committee for attention.

7. Your co-operation in this regard will be highly appreciated.

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