



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Media Statement

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Tuesday, 06 September 2022

The Department condemns School Vandalism and Violence

The Department of Education in KwaZulu-Natal condemns in the strongest possible terms the torching of classrooms and vandalism that took place at Ndengetho High School on Thursday, 01 September 2022.

According to the reports from the school, the learners were reacting to the search and seizure operation that was conducted by the South African Police Services (SAPS), which led to cell phones, weapons and drugs being confiscated by members of SAPS.

According to the school's code of conduct, learners are not allowed to take cell phones into the school premises, hence cell phones were also confiscated by the police. The Department commends the act by the police as it forms part of the agreement that the Department has with the South African Police Services.

The SAPS and DBE have a protocol agreement signed more than 10 years ago which is implemented by provinces and search and seizures in schools are part of the crime prevention and awareness that happens on a regular basis.

The members of SAPS who conduct search and seizure in schools are acting in line with the agreement, which is aimed at eradicating crime in schools. In terms of the agreement, every school is linked to the police station and at the moment, 18 000 schools in the country are directly assigned a police station to ensure that all schools are crime free zones.

The Department further reminds School Management Teams (SMTs), working with School Governing Bodies (SGBs), to ensure that the school's codes of conduct are adhered to at all times to ensure school functionality, which provides the basis and the conducive environment for quality teaching and learning.

"We applaud the work of the police and we are encouraged to see that our agreement with SAPS is bearing fruits as there are many other schools, where such operations by SAPS are taking place," said the MEC for Education in KwaZulu-Natal, Ms Mbali Frazer.

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ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN KWAZULU-NATAL

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Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education

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