

MEDIA STATEMENT

03 June 2020

KZN EDUCATION MEC CONCERNED ABOUT ALLEGATIONS THAT CERTAIN MASKS PROVIDED BY DOE ARE OF INFERIOR STANDARD.

KwaZulu-Natal Education MEC Kwazi Mshengu has noted with concern Covid-19 masks circulating in social media circles which are purported to be from the Provincial Education Department.

What is noticeable and worrisome about these masks is that they appear to be of inferior and substandard quality.

MEC Mshengu has vowed that his Department, together with the Provincial Health Department, will immediately conduct an audit of the masks being provided to schools to ensure that they are not of substandard quality.

"We have since taken the position that all service providers will be paid once an audit on the quality of PPEs and other essentials has been concluded and that confirmation is received that all materials are according to the specifications and standards as prescribed by the Department Of Health.

"We would like to assure our stakeholders that there will be no compromise to their safety. Any allegation pertaining to the quality of PPEs will be thoroughly investigated.

"Covid19 is a serious pandemic. Therefore, we cannot risk the lives of our learners, teachers and staff members by providing PPEs which are substandard and of poor quality." said Mshengu.

The Department is working around the clock to ensure that all schools are compliant with all the non-negotiable(s) before the reopening of schools next week.

Ends/ ...

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN KWAZULU-NATAL WILL

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