



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Media Alert

To All News Editors

Embargoed: For Immediate Release

Monday, 17 January 2022

MEC MSHENGU TO ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS ON FACTION FIGHTS IN UMKHAMBATHINI AHEAD OF SCHOOLS REOPENING

The MEC for Education in KwaZulu-Natal will visit the area of uMkhambathini to engage all education stakeholders ahead of schools reopening. This visit follows after certain members of the community have threatened to prevent educators and learners from gaining access to the school when the schools reopen.

The issue of faction fighting in the area of uMkhambathini in uMgungundlovu District has escalated and it has the potential to disrupt the schools reopening in the area.

"We have been informed that the local traditional leadership has a dispute with the KZN Government. Notably, the dispute has nothing to do with education and yet some community members have chosen to use schools as a soft targets and a bargaining tool"- remarked MEC Mshengu.

The Department of Education in KwaZulu-Natal appreciates that communities are free to engage in protest action but cannot intimidate and prevent learners from going to school.

The visit will take place as follows:

Tuesday, 18 January 2022.

Venue 1: KwaGcina Primary School at 09H00

Venue 2: Mcoseli High School at 10H00

Members of the media are cordially invited to cover the visit.

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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