



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Media Statement

To: All Media

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Thursday, 09 November 2023

KZN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IS PROCESSING THE PAYMENT OF 1.5% PAY PROGRESSION, GRADE R PRACTITIONERS INCREMENT AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO AFFECTED SCHOOLS

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education acknowledges the challenges affecting some of the schools resulting from financial constraints faced by the government in the country.

Emanating from the budget adjustment speech by the Minister of Finance, Mr Enoch Godongwana delivered on 01 November 2023, a provisional allocation letter has been received from Treasury confirming that the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education will be among those that will soon be getting the adjusted budget allocation from the National Treasury.

Based on the confirmation by the National Treasury, the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Executive Council met on Wednesday, 08 November 2023, to finalize the process for the distribution of funds to the affected departments.

The Department is now processing the payment of 1.5% pay progression for employees. This payment will be backdated from 1 July 2023. All eligible employees will receive their

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Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education

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payments on the 15th of December 2023.

Furthermore, the Department is also processing transfers to schools and these payments will be released on the 15th of November 2023.

With the additional funding allocated to KZN by the Minister of Finance, the Department can now implement stipend adjustments for all Grade R practitioners. These adjustments for Grade R practitioners will be backdated from 1 April 2023, in line with the general salary increase of public servants. They should get their increment from the 30th of November 2023.

MEC Frazer and the Department's Top Management have met with SADTU, NATU, NAAPTOSA as well as SAOU to discuss all other issues that are negatively affecting the education sector in the province and collaborated on the way forward.

The Department tabled a plan to address all these challenges and unions had an opportunity to make contributions. Teacher unions expressed appreciation for the opportunity afforded to them, to engage the Department, and all parties in these engagements reaffirmed their collective commitment to protect the learners' constitutional right to access to education.

Moreover, the Department is scheduled to meet other stakeholders, including other unions which have affiliated members from the education sector.

MEC Frazer expressed her gratitude to school principals and educators for ensuring that teaching and learning, including providing support to learners during the current examinations, continued regardless of the financial challenges.

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“It is indeed evident that this province is blessed with educators who have the best interest of our learners at heart, they understand that the future of these learners is in their hands,” said MEC Frazer.

...//ENDS

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