KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
EDUCATION
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MEDIA STATEMENT

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KZN MEC FOR EDUCATION OFFICIALLY OPENS SIYAKHANYISA PRIMARY SCHOOL IN KING CETSHWAYO DISTRICT

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Education, Mr Sipho Hlomuka, accompanied by the Head of Department, Mr Nkosinathi Ngcobo, has officially opened the newly built Siyakhanyisa Primary School in Zidedele, under the King Cetshwayo District, marking a significant milestone in the Department's ongoing efforts to improve school infrastructure and create a conducive teaching and learning environment for learners and educators.

The official opening was met with excitement and jubilation from the school community, as learners celebrated the occasion through song and dance, reflecting the hope and opportunities that the new school brings to the community.

Led by the school principal, Mr Ntethelelo Shandu, Siyakhanyisa Primary School has benefited from an extensive infrastructure project aimed at upgrading and expanding the school's facilities to better accommodate the educational needs of learners.
The project, implemented by the Coega Development Corporation, with Afriscan Construction (Pty) Ltd as the appointed contractor, was completed at a contract value of approximately R83.2 million.

The project reached practical completion on 10 February 2026, with works completion achieved on 15 April 2026.The scope of work included the construction of an administration block comprising the principal's office, deputy principal's office and general office, as well as a staffroom with a kitchen, stationery and general stores, a printing room, sick rooms for male and female learners, and an entrance hall.

To strengthen teaching and learning, the project delivered 13 standard classrooms and five Grade R classrooms, three multipurpose rooms, a media centre with a storeroom, a computer room with a storeroom, a team teaching and activity room, four Heads of Department offices and teachers' workrooms, and a counselling suite.

Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education

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The infrastructure development also included a National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) kitchen, dedicated storage facilities, a garden store and changeroom, and ablution facilities comprising 15 toilet seats for girls, 18 toilet seats and urinal spaces for boys, six teachers' toilet seats, a disabled toilet, and dedicated ablution facilities for Grade R learners and their teacher.

Further improvements included a guardhouse, perimeter fencing, 46 parking bays, a flagpole, an assembly area and hardened courtyard, a combi court, a soccer field and associated external works. These facilities provide an improved environment for academic activities, learner development, sport and extracurricular participation.

The investment in school infrastructure demonstrates the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education's commitment to providing functional, safe and supportive learning spaces that respond to the needs of school communities. The expanded facilities at Siyakhanyisa Primary School are intended to support effective curriculum delivery, strengthen school administration and enhance the overall schooling experience for learners and educators.

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Education in his address indicated that "Beyond the infrastructure delivered, the project also contributed to local economic participation through the creation of 59 jobs during construction, including opportunities for young people and women, thereby extending its impact beyond the school to the surrounding community", he further encouraged the community of Zidedele to safe guard the school against vandalism and the likes.

The opening of Siyakhanyisa Primary School represents an important investment in the future of learners in the King Cetshwayo District. The Department remains committed to improving educational infrastructure as part of its broader responsibility to strengthen teaching and learning and ensure that schools are equipped to serve their communities effectively.

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