



# Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

WCPP 11/4/10

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Friday, 10 February 2023 (09:00), Chamber, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 7 Wale Street, Cape Town (Hybrid Meeting)

(Briefing by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) on the following:

- (i) The admissions process for 2023 academic year;
- (ii) Status of school readiness for the 2023 academic year;
- (iii) 2022 National Senior Certificate (NSC) Results and the pass rate for the Western Cape.)

#### PRESENT

##### Members:

##### **Democratic Alliance**

Baartman, DM (Chairperson)

Fry, C

Plato, D

##### **African National Congress**

Sayed, MK

##### **African Christians Democratic Party**

Christians, FC

##### **Alternate**

Kama, M (ANC)

Mackenzie, RD (DA)

(See attached list of departmental officials and members of the public who were in attendance.)

#### 1. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed all. The Minister of Education, Mr D Maynier and the Head of the Department, Mr B Walters were present at the meeting.

Minister D Maynier informed the Committee that the WCED had made significant progress on the Rapid School Build programme (RSB), completing more than 600 classrooms. He also mentioned the significant progress in Grades 1 and 8, where approximately 98% of learners had been placed.

However, Mr Maynier acknowledged that the system was still under significant pressure, mainly due to over 3 000 late applications received after 1 January 2023. He explained that admissions were time-consuming, as each learner had unique considerations such as language, subjects, and in some cases, special needs. He emphasised that the WCED was committed to working with concerned parents to resolve each placement challenge.

## **2. Briefing by the Western Cape Education Department on the 2022 National Senior Certificate (NSC) Results and the pass rate for the Western Cape.**

Mr. H. Mohamed, Deputy Director General: Curriculum and Assessment Management, led the first presentation.

Mr Mahomed, reported on the WCED's 2022 National Senior Certificate results. He stated that 124 national question papers had been written, including backup papers.

During its presentation, the WCED said that the overall pass rate had increased from 81.2% in 2021 to 81.4% in 2022. As a result of the collective efforts of all officials, learners, parents, stakeholders, and parents, the WCED has managed to improve its pass rate since 2020, according to Mr Mahomed.

## **3. Briefing by the Western Cape Education Department on the admissions process for 2023 academic year and the status of school readiness for the 2023 academic year.**

Mr B Walters, the Head of the Western Cape Education Department, led the second presentation.

In his presentation on 2023 admissions, Mr. Walters emphasised that the WCED is committed to working with concerned parents to resolve any placement challenge. He reported significant progress on the Rapid School Build (RSB) programme, with more than 600 classrooms completed. The WCED system had grown by 17,901 students annually from 2018-2022. The average growth per year was reported as 17,901.

Concerned parents also attended the meeting to discuss the challenges their children faced. In addition to housing issues, parents also reported that their children faced major security risks and gender-based violence in schools.

The WCED had set up a public help desk in the lobby outside the Chamber to assist parents who experienced online registration challenges. The WCED officials received and registered the applications of 68 learners. Of the 68 individuals, 10 were new placement applications and 58 were follow-up applications.

The Committee deliberated on the presentations.

**4. Consideration and adoption of the Draft minutes of the Standing Committee on Education**

- 4.1. The Chairperson tabled the Draft Minutes of 03 November 2022, which were considered and adopted.
- 4.2. The Chairperson tabled the Draft Minutes of 08 November 2022, which were considered and adopted.
- 4.3. The Chairperson tabled the Draft Minutes of 22 November 2022, which were considered and adopted.
- 4.4. The Chairperson tabled the Draft Minutes of 28 November 2022, which were considered and adopted.

Having concluded the business of the day, the Chairperson thanked Members of the Committee, the MEC for Education, and the WCED officials for their contribution.

The Committee adjourned at 13h00.



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**ADV DM BAARTMAN, MPP**  
**CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**  
**WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT**