



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

WCPP 11/4/10

Annual Activity Report of the Standing Committee on Education for the 2022/23 financial year as follows:

The Strategic Objectives of the WCPP linked to the Speakers' Priorities which impact on committees are as follows:

Priority 1: Building a credible WCPP; and
Priority 3: Strengthening the core business.

Members

The Committee comprised of the following Members:

Baartman, DM (Chairperson) (DA)
Fry, C (DA)
Plato, D (DA)
Christians, FC (ACDP)
Sayed, MK (ANC)

Alternate members:

Brinkhuis, G (Al Jama-ah)
Bosman, G (DA)
Kama, M (ANC)
Philander, WF (DA)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to:

- 1.1 Maintain oversight over the Western Cape Education Department, the way in which the Department performs its responsibilities, including the implementation of legislation and holding the Executive Authority accountable.
- 1.2 Consider and report on legislation, the Annual Reports and matters referred to it by the Speaker.

In fulfilment of its mandate the Committee:

- 1.3 Facilitated public participation and involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Committee.
- 1.4 Conducted its business in a fair, open, and transparent manner.
- 1.5 Promoted co-operative governance.
- 1.6 Reported regularly to the House.

2. Reporting Department

2.1. Western Cape Education Department

3. Overview of Committee's activities

Number of Committee Meetings	9
Number of Public Hearings	4
Number of Oversight Visits	9
Number of Visit Weeks	2
Number of Provincial Bills considered	0
Number of International Visits	1

4. Oversight activities

In May 2022, the Standing Committee commenced its parliamentary year with a briefing by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) on learner admissions and mathematics and language strategy. The Equal Education Law Centre was also invited to brief the Committee on learner admissions matters in the Western Cape.

May 2022 saw the Committee broadening its scope by embarking on an International Study Tour to São Paulo in Brazil from 14 to 25 May 2022. The international study tour is one of the mechanisms established by the Western Cape Provincial Parliament to achieve its constitutional mandate and broaden its scope, by seeking best practices in other countries. The purpose of the international study visit was to understand Education and Social Development from a country with similar structures and economic background to South Africa in these portfolios. The two Committees undertook a study visit to Brazil to assess the best practices in the portfolios of Education and Social Development.

As part of ongoing oversight, the committee embarked on visits to Athlone High School in Silvertown and Spes Bona High School in Athlone, two schools with low National Senior Certificate outcomes for the 2021/22 academic year. The Committee also visited two schools in the Cape Winelands Education District in June 2022.

The Committee was also briefed by the WCED on the foundation phase curriculum and Early Childhood Development (ECD). The Committee undertook oversight visits to the West End Primary School in Mitchells Plain and the Pinelands North Primary School in Pinelands, both of which were placed in the Top 10 schools for the World's Best Schools Prize for Overcoming Adversity.

During August 2022, the committee deemed it necessary to conduct oversight visits to the Alpine Primary School in Mitchells Plain and Erica Primary School in Belhar.

During August 2022, the WCED briefed the committee on data utilisation and the National Data-Driven District project through SA-SAMS. The STEAMAC subjects offered in schools (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics, Agriculture, and Coding) and the National School's Nutritional Programme

In the second quarter of the financial year, the committee participated in the Social Cluster Visit Week to the Greater Plettenberg Bay area.

During the third quarter of the financial year, the Committee deliberated on the Annual Report of the WCED for the 2021/22 financial year.

In the third quarter, the Committee was briefed by the WCED on inclusive education in ordinary public schools and the Equal Education Law Centre on the findings and recommendations of the report on the State of Inclusive Education in South Africa. The Committee looked at projects from across the world that had enhanced the lives of learners by inviting Kwendalo to brief the committee on the Harmony Project at Bahia Formosa School in Plettenberg Bay.

They received a briefing on the national funding framework for Early Childhood Development's conditional grant criteria and their interaction with other child support grants, as well as on the admissions process for 2023 in the Western Cape by the WCED.

In November 2022, the Committee deliberated on Vote 5: Education in the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation.

In the fourth quarter of the financial year, the committee formed part of the Social Cluster A visit week to the Kannaland District.

In February 2023, the WCED reported on the admissions process and school readiness for the 2023 academic year, the 2022 National Senior Certificate (NSC) results, and the pass rate for the Western Cape.

Towards the end of the fourth quarter, the Committee undertook a follow-up oversight visit to the Crestway High School, unannounced oversight visits to Saxonsea Junior High School in Atlantis, and two oversight visits to the Early Childhood Development Centres namely AVCC Pikkieland ECD in Cape Town and Bo-Kaap Day-care Centre in Bo-Kaap.

In March 2023, the committee visited the Ned Dorman High School in Athlone. They also deliberated on Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Additional Adjustments Appropriation Bill (2022/23 financial year), 2023, and on Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill, 2023.

5. Legislation

In the 2022/23 Financial Year, the Committee dealt with the following items of legislation:

5.1 Provincial Bills

5.1.1. Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Additional Adjustments Appropriation Bill (2022/23 financial year) [B1-2023].

5.1.2. Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B2-2023]

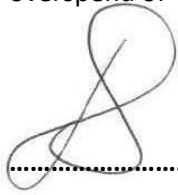
5.1.3. Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B3-2022].

6. Facilitation of public involvement and participation

In line with its mandate to facilitate public participation as part of the legislative process, the Committee held two public hearings on the deliberations on the Provincial Money Bills, and the Annual Report of the Western Cape Education Department. The dates for the hearings were published in the mainstream and community newspapers in the Western Cape.

7. Financial particulars

The Standing Committee was allocated an amount of R 63 176.00 and the adjusted budget amounted to R465 104.00. The Standing Committee spent R525 916.00 during the 2022/23 financial year an overspend of – R60 812.00 (expenditure after the Adjusted budget) was reported.



.....
ADV DM BAARTMAN, MPP

**CHAIRPERSON OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT**