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TO: DEPUTY DIRECTORS-GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
DIRECTORS: HEAD OFFICE AND DISTRICTS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
DEPUTY CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF SCHOOLS
SCHOOL MANAGEMENT TEAMS
TEACHERS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES
TEACHER UNIONS

FROM: ACTING HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: EDUCATION

SUBJECT: TEACHING & LEARNING PRIORITIES FOR 2013

DATE: 02 JANUARY 2013

TEACHING & LEARNING PRIORITIES FOR 2013

A. INTRODUCTION

As we move towards the start of the 2013 school year, all personnel at head office, districts and schools are requested to note the key priorities and deliverables for the 2013 academic year. These priorities have been endorsed by the extended Top Management of the Eastern Cape Department of Education and should be the focus of implementation at all levels of the provincial education system. 2013 has been declared the year to move from "*Theory to Action*", and "*Policy to Practice*".

The provincial teaching and learning priorities for the 2013 academic year have been drawn in the main from four core documents: "Action Plan 2014", "ECP 2012/13 Turnaround Plan", "ECP 2012/13 Learner Attainment Improvement Strategy"

Resolutions, and the "2012/13 National Strategy for Learner Attainment" and its action plan.

The provincial teaching and learning priorities for 2013 articulated below are intended to inform **Planning, Implementation, Monitoring** and **Support** at 3 levels, namely: Provincial, District, and School.

B. KEY DELIVERABLES FOR 2013

1. GENERAL EDUCATION & TRAINING (GET) CURRICULUM DELIVERABLES: (GRADES R TO 9)

1.1 Literacy and Numeracy Improvement Strategy: National strategies and provincial Annual National Assessment (ANA) Improvement Plan Framework to inform the development of District / School / Grade / Class customised improvement plans for 2013.

1.2 National Curriculum Statement (NCS): CAPS Orientation and Implementation: CAPS orientation of Grades 7-9 to be conducted at Provincial/ District/ Cluster levels and other implementing grades to ensure full CAPS compliance.

1.3 Subject Committees & Subject Improvement Plans: Subject Committees to be sustained / established in the GET Band at Provincial/District/Circuit levels, with special focus on Subject Improvement Plans, School-Based Assessment (SBA) and Teacher Development.

2. FURTHER EDUCATION & TRAINING (FET) CURRICULUM DELIVERABLES: (GRADES 10 to 12)

2.1 Grade 12 Learner Support: Strategies to be informed by special emphasis on Maths, Sciences and Languages, as well as identified Under-performing Subjects. Learner motivation programme to be included.

2.2 Subject Improvement Plans (Grades 10 to 12): Ensure utilisation of DBE Grade 12 NSC Diagnostic Reports, UMALUSI Subject Reports, 2012 Examiners' and Moderators' Reports, ECP Analysis of Grade 12 NSC Results, and School Diagnostic Analysis of Provincial 2012 Grade 11 Exams etc. to inform development of Provincial / District / School / Grade / Class individually customised Subject Improvement Plans.

2.3 NCS - CAPS Orientation and Implementation: CAPS orientation for Grade 12 teachers and full implementation in Grades 10-11.

2.4 Maths and Science Strategy: A holistic Maths and Science Improvement Strategy crafted and operationalised at provincial / district / school levels, mindful of national annual targets set up to 2014.

2.5 Subject Committees: Sustaining/establishing Subject Committees in the FET Band at Provincial/District/Circuit levels, with special focus on Subject Improvement Plans, School - Based Assessment (SBA) and Teacher Development.

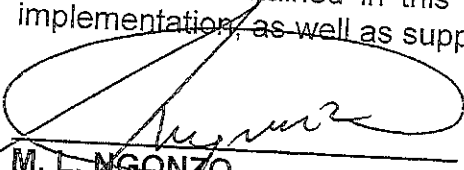
3. UNDER-PERFORMING GET & FET SCHOOLS

The 2012 ANA results at District /School levels and the 2012 NSC results at District / School levels shall be used to identify under-performance in the GET & FET Bands.

Dedicated teams of District officials to be allocated to each under-performing school in 2013. Such teams to use the key deliverables above to direct their monitoring and support of under-performing schools. Moreover, dedicated Provincial teams will monitor & support under-performing districts.

C. CONCLUSION

The priorities listed in this circular have been broken down into clear deliverables that are compulsory for implementation at the appropriate levels and are contained in a document entitled "*Teaching & Learning Priorities for 2013 Planning & Budgeting*". Other deliverables and activities may be added to each of the priorities, depending on specific needs and contexts, at provincial, district and school levels. Head Office, Districts and schools should refer to the departmental Curriculum Website for the full document on the teaching and learning priorities for 2013. The website can be accessed at the following address: www.eccurriculum.co.za. The Teaching & Learning deliverables contained in this circular shall form the basis for focused monitoring of implementation, as well as support and reporting for the 2013 academic year.


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