



## Schools' Infrastructure Buyambo

Let us keep the  
**faith** and remain  
positive in 2021!



## Content

- |   |   |    |  |
|---|---|----|--|
| 2 | Message from the MEC  | 6  | Delivering on Schools' Infrastructure does not happen overnight! |
| 3 | Tribute to the SG   | 8  | Major Projects in Construction                                   |
| 4 | Conserving our school heritage sites for future generations | 10 | Tribute to Advocate Ndelu & Retirement Blessings                 |
| 5 | Gwebityala Senior Secondary<br>Setting the record straight  | 11 | 2021 School Calendar   |



**Let's Grow  
South Africa.  
Together.**



Wash & sanitise  
your hands

Hlamba ucoce  
izandla zakho



Keep your distance  
from others

Gcina umgama phakathi  
kwakho nabanye



Wear your mask

Nxiba i-mask  
yakho



# 2021...Too much is at stake to give up hope!

## MEC's Message

The advent of a new year is normally quite emotional – filled with hope for the future and fear of the unknown.

We ended 2020 off with the hope that 2021 would be better. Little did we know, that at the start of 2021 our education sector would be unsettled by the sad passing of our beloved Head of Department, Mr Themba Kojana.

We are facing the eye of a storm, and we have lost a great leader who wholeheartedly dedicated his energy to transforming the sector. This has literally shattered us as a sector and as a province, and this pain will be felt for many years to come. This loss comes at a time when the Department had put its hope in the leadership of Mr Kojana for the realisation of a quality public education system in the Eastern Cape. As the longest serving HoD, Mr Kojana managed to lead a team of dedicated officials who helped to position the Department well and put the province on the map. He served as a catalyst of the Education System Transformation Plan, and through his efforts we have seen a year-on-year improvement in various areas of our business, including improvements in learner attainment. The Department has lost a formidable leader who served the interest of all selflessly. He was a public servant in the true sense of the word and his untimely departure will leave a huge gap in the whole province.

Our province is being ravaged by Covid-19 and we have lost many colleagues, family, and friends to this pandemic. Hope and aspirations for the future is at an all time low and the air is thick with fear and anxiety. Notwithstanding this, as cogs in the education machinery, we are at the coalface of changing and improving lives, and we dare not give up hope as there is too much at stake!

The Deputy Minister for Basic Education announced the revised schooling calendar considering the second wave of Covid-19 infections. Schools were meant to open on 28 January, but this has been postponed to 15 February.

Our staff at a Head Office, District and school level are hard at work to ensure that we are ready to kick off the academic year smoothly.

The areas of our focus include:

- a) Providing a safe environment for learners and teaching staff.
- b) Admission of learners.

- c) Infrastructure and provision of school furniture.
- d) Availability of Learner and Teacher Support Materials (LTSM).
- e) Availability of teachers as per the Post Provisioning Norms (PPN).
- f) Preparedness to start the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP).
- g) Provision of Scholar Transport.

Plans for monitoring the opening of schools by various teams comprising DoE management and staff; and Members of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature, are being finalised and will be communicated in due course.

The Covid-19 pandemic is having a catastrophic effect on the infrastructure programme due to the lockdown of sites; the procurement, availability and transportation of materials; slowdown in production rates; and site safety due to Covid-19 and closures where the number of infections is high. In the current financial year, the Department was compelled to divert EIG funding for non-infrastructure Covid-19 Emergency interventions (i.e., Hygiene, Water & Sanitation, PPE for the learners and staff). Consequently, the available budget for Programme 6 had to be re-prioritised. The budgetary constraints impacted on construction site progress and contractors abandoning sites. Non-payments are resulting in huge accruals and impacting on progress achieved on site. 2021 will be a difficult year as we battle competing priorities and a depressed fiscal environment.

Despite the many challenges and setbacks we face, I would like to urge all officials to continue our work unabatedly. Citizens are counting on us to set an example, and to deliver on our mandate. Let us continue to deliver our absolute best to build on the legacy of excellence left by Mr Kojana.

Remember... Wear your mask; sanitise and wash your hands; and keep your distance from others.

I wish you and your families blessings upon blessings in 2021.

**Mr F Gade**

MEC: Education  
Eastern Cape



# In Loving Memory

## Themba Stanley Kojana 1963 – 2020

I counted my years  
& realized that I have  
Less time to live by,  
Than I have lived so far.

I feel like a child who won a pack of candies:  
at first he ate them with pleasure,  
But when he realized that there was little left,  
he began to taste them intensely.

I have no time for endless meetings where the statutes,  
rules, procedures & internal regulations are discussed,  
knowing that nothing will be done.

I no longer have the patience  
To stand absurd people who,  
despite their chronological age,  
have not grown up.

My time is too short:  
I want the essence,  
my spirit is in a hurry.  
I do not have much candy  
In the package anymore.

I want to live next to humans,  
very realistic people who know  
How to laugh at their mistakes,  
Who are not inflated by their own triumphs  
& who take responsibility for their actions.  
In this way, human dignity is defended  
and we live in truth and honesty.



It is the essentials that make life useful.  
I want to surround myself with people  
who know how to touch the hearts of those whom hard  
strokes of life have learned to grow, with sweet touches of  
the soul.

Yes, I'm in a hurry.  
I'm in a hurry to live with the intensity that only maturity can  
give.  
I do not intend to waste any of the remaining desserts.

I am sure they will be exquisite,  
much more than those eaten so far.  
My goal is to reach the end satisfied and at peace with my  
loved ones and my conscience.

We have two lives  
& the second begins when you realize you only have one.

*My Soul Has a Hat*

Poem by Mario de Andrade  
(San Paolo 1893-1945)

You'll forever be  
in our hearts!



# Conserving our School

## Heritage Sites for Future Generations

A Heritage resource is any place or object of cultural significance. This means that the place or object has 'aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance'. South Africa has several schools declared Historical Heritage Sites and which are conserved in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999. The Act aims to identify, protect, preserve, and manage heritage resources for future generations.

The Act deals specifically with Built Environment Structures. Remarkably, a whopping 409 operational schools in the Eastern Cape have been identified as historical heritage resources in line with the Act. The Act prohibits the alteration or demolition of any structure, or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (PHRA). In terms of the Schools' Infrastructure Programme, the Department needs to inform the Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Authority (ECPHRA) of its intention to undertake any maintenance or repair work at historical heritage schools and works can only commence with the relevant permit being issued by the ECPHRA.

## Why is it important to conserve Historical Heritage Sites?

- To enable and encourage communities to nurture and conserve their legacy so that it may be bequeathed to future generations.
- Our heritage is unique and precious, and it cannot be renewed.
- It helps us to define our cultural identity and therefore lies at the heart of our spiritual well-being and has the power to build our nation.
- It has the potential to affirm our diverse cultures, and in so doing shape our national character.
- Our heritage celebrates our achievements and contributes to redressing past inequities.
- It educates, it deepens our understanding of society and encourages us to empathise with the experience of others.
- It facilitates healing and material and symbolic restitution, and it promotes new and previously neglected research into our rich oral traditions and customs.

Source: Preamble of the National Heritage Resources Act, of 1999.

## Heritage Resource Conservation Projects

**Healdtown Comprehensive School**, situated close to Fort Beaufort, is one of South Africa's oldest historical institutions. It was founded in 1855, operating as a training school for evangelists and later as a teacher training college and practice school for primary teachers. Later, Healdtown Comprehensive School provided basic education and has,

for many years, contributed greatly to the promotion of decent education for black South Africans.

Our country's first democratic president, Mr Nelson Mandela, went to school here between 1937 and 1938.

The school was severely damaged in the 1976 Soweto student uprising and many of the buildings including fourteen classrooms were burnt down. Previously also known as Ilanga High School, Healdtown Comprehensive School was reopened shortly after the first democratic elections.

Restoration of Healdtown started in May 2017 and permits were granted by the ECPHRA for works which include the School Building, Dormitories, and a Museum (incorporating a room dedicated to Nelson which Mandela).

Construction was rolled out in various phases since 2017 and the project is nearing completion.



External before restoration



External after Restoration



Typical Room in the Museum (before)



Mandela's Room in the Museum (after)



# Setting the Record Straight for Gwebityala Secondary School in Eastern Cape

On 13 October 2020 Cutting Edge aired a programme on the state of schools in the Eastern Cape. The programme contained a number of inaccuracies which we would like to clarify.



**Fiction:** The department promised a new school, but instead put up prefab structures.



**Fact:** Prefab structures were constructed at the school as Phase 1 of the construction programme to ensure that there is sufficient decent infrastructure available whilst we plan for Phase 2.



**Fiction:** Members of the SGB interviewed stated that they do not want prefab structures but proper infrastructure.



**Fact:** The school management team and SGB were briefed on the plans and timelines for construction of the new school at numerous site meetings between 2017 and 2019.



**Fiction:** The ECDoE said that work was being completed but there was no contractor on site.



**Fact:** There may not have been a contractors on site when the Cutting Edge crew were at the school, but it was clear that Phase 1 construction was at an advanced stage.



**Fiction:** Prefabs are not safe, they are supported with sticks and are wobbly on a sunny day. This is very dangerous when it's raining - the building can cave in.



**Fact:** All prefab buildings are designed in line with local and international building regulations and standards.



**Fact:** Prefabs are constructed by qualified civil & structural engineers and comply with health & safety regulations. Temporary structures are constructed on a foundation comprising a steel chassis, which rests on concrete blocks.



**Fact:** Prefabs are structurally strong - made from chromadeck sheeting and poly-urethane injection foam core.



**Fact:** Prefabs are Insulated to provide a thermal response - cool in summer and warm in winter.



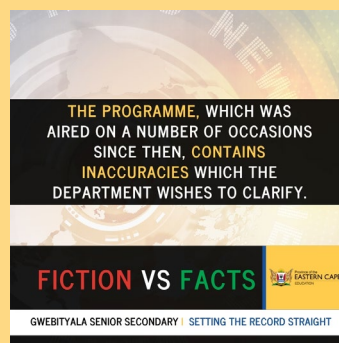
**Fact:** Prefabs are mobile - can easily be relocated to another school if required.



## GWEBITYALA SSS CUTTING EDGE PROGRAMME SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT



Province of the  
**EASTERN CAPE**  
EDUCATION



## PHASE COMPLETED OCTOBER 2020





# Best Practices in the Planning & Delivery of School Infrastructure

Best practice focussed on the delivery and lifecycle management of South African public-sector infrastructure in line with legislative requirements, is assured through the application of the Infrastructure Delivery Management System (IDMS).

The IDMS is the foundation which provides for the integrated planning, budgeting, procurement, implementation and monitoring of infrastructure in the Public Sector.



# Delivering on Schools' Infrastructure does not happen overnight!



Ever heard the saying, “Rome wasn’t built in a day”? This English translation of a medieval French phrase demonstrates that time is needed to create great things. The same is true for planning and delivery of school infrastructure.

In the forthcoming editions of **Sakh’isidima News** we will take you through a journey to create an understanding of the school infrastructure planning and delivery framework.

Infrastructure management is a complex undertaking and as such the effective and efficient performance of infrastructure planning, delivery and monitoring require institutionalised structures, systems, and best practices.

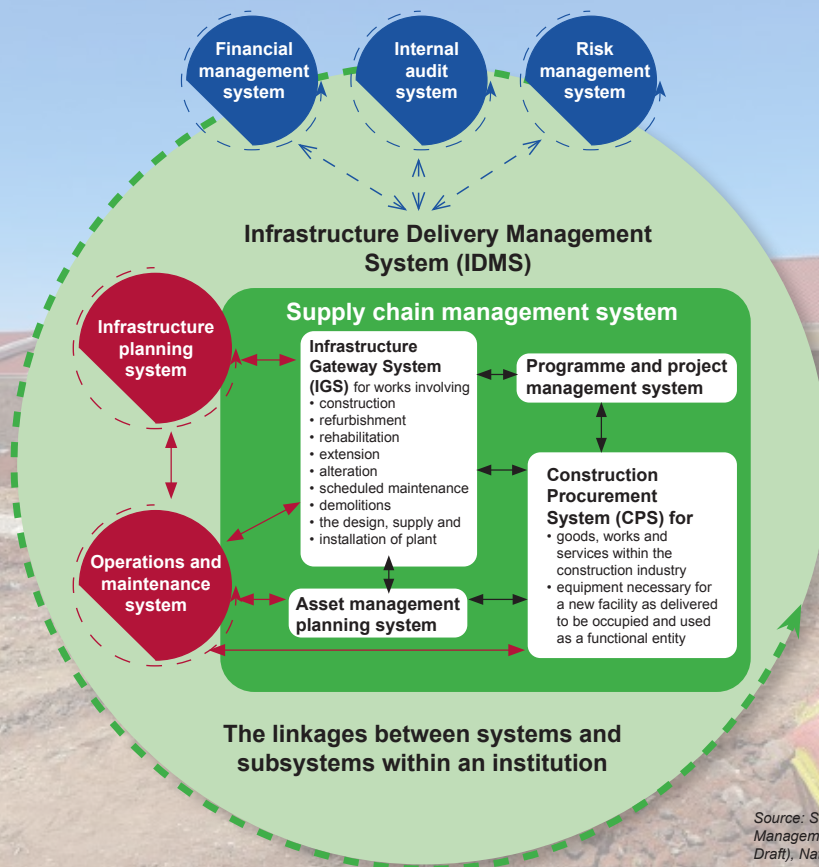
The IDMS is supported by the Infrastructure Delivery Management Toolkit (IDM Toolkit) providing guidelines for infrastructure delivery and procurement management to ensure a uniform approach to infrastructure delivery management.

The Provincial Infrastructure Delivery Framework (PIDF) provides for the institutionalisation of the IDMS. It includes alignment with existing legal mandates, roles, responsibilities,

and accountabilities between government departments and between the different service delivery tiers within each department responsible for infrastructure delivery. In the case of the ECDoE, roles and responsibilities are divided between head office, districts, circuits, and schools.

Infrastructure Delivery Model best practice focus on the delivery and lifecycle management of South African public-sector infrastructure in line with legislative requirements. This is assured through the application of the Infrastructure Delivery Management System (IDMS) which comprises several interrelated systems used for infrastructure planning; infrastructure gateway / sign-off stages; construction procurement; programme and project management; and operations and maintenance. These systems are used by the Department as a blueprint for infrastructure delivery management.

Above all, the IDMS ensures that all school infrastructure is designed and constructed in a manner which is not just aesthetically pleasing and technically sound, but that it provides a safe and conducive environment for users (educators and learners).



Source: Standard for an Infrastructure Delivery Management System (30 November 2012 - Final Draft), National Treasury



# Top 6 Projects in Construction

The table below outlines 6 projects above R50m which are in construction (Stage 7). All projects are between 76-99% completion.



EMIS No	Project Name	Educational District	IA	Type of Infrastructure	Project Cost
200100908	THUBALETHU SECONDARY SCHOOL	AMATHOLE WEST	DoE	Hostels	R103m
200100363	JUBILEE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL	NELSON MANDELA	DPW	Replacement school (Major works)	R103m
200300614	TYALI HIGH SCHOOL	AMATHOLE EAST	CDC	Replacement school (Major works)	R75.85m
200501101	QUMBU VILLAGE SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL	O R TAMBO COASTAL	DBSA	Realignment	R62m
200500005	ARTHUR NGUNGA SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL	ALFRED NZO WEST	DBSA	Realignment	R54.1m
200501216	TOLENI PRIMARY SCHOOL	ALFRED NZO WEST	DBSA	Realignment	R51m







**Tyali High School  
Amathole East  
Coega Development Corporation**





# Retirement Blessings

*“I will miss the people I worked with in all sections... they were like my second family”*

After 24 years of serving the Department, Ms Noziqamo Felicity Nkoloti will be retiring at the end of January 2021 to fill her days with her first love, small-scale farming.

Ms Nkoloti started off as Administration Clerk in East London in 1987 and ended her journey in the Physical Resources Management Directorate as Chief Provisioning Admin Clerk, where she spent 12 years.



“I will miss the people I worked with in all sections, starting from Alice to Zwelitsha. They were like my second family”, says Ms Nkoloti.

The management and staff of the PRM Directorate wish miss Nkoloti well for the future and thank her for her commitment and service to the Department.

IN LOVING  
*Memory*

**Adv. Nkosifikile Daluxolo**  
**Gcinabakhe Ndelu JC**

12 FEB 1973 - 1 JAN 2021



Province of the  
**EASTERN CAPE**  
EDUCATION





# 2021 BACK TO SCHOOL

Revised date for opening of schools (for learners): **15 February 2021**

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION  
NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ACT, 1996 (ACT NO 27 OF 1996)  
2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mrs Angie Motshekga, MP  
Minister of Basic Education

I, Angelina Matsie Motshekga, Minister of Basic Education, acting in terms of section 3(4)(k) of the National Education Policy Act, 1996, (Act No. 27 of 1996), and after consultation with the Council of Education Ministers, hereby publish the 2021 School Calendar for public schools in South Africa as detailed in the accompanying schedule.

## 2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR COMMON CALENDAR

January 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Key	
	Weekends
	Days for administration
	School days
	Public holidays
	Special school holidays
	School holidays

April 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Public and School Holidays 2021	
01 January	New Year's Day
21 March	Human Rights Day
22 March	Public holiday
02 April	Good Friday
05 April	Family Day
26 April	Special School holiday
27 April	Freedom Day
01 May	Workers' Day
16 June	Youth Day
09 August	National Women's Day
24 September	Heritage Day
16 December	Day of Reconciliation
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Day of Goodwill

July 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Terms	Duration	No. of weeks	No. of days	No. of public holidays	Actual no. of school days
Term 1	(11) 13 January – 26 Mar	11	53 (55)	1	52 (54)
Term 2	13 April – 25 June	11	54	2+1	51
Term 3	20 July – 01 October	11	54	2	52
Term 4	12 October – 08 (10) Dec	09	42 (44)	0	42 (44)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>203 (207)</b>	<b>5+1</b>	<b>197 (201)</b>



# Covid-19 Safe Practices



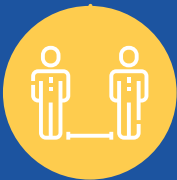
## Hand Washing

- At least 20 seconds
- Include wrists and up to elbows
- Use soap and water



## Sneezing & Coughing

- In a tissue OR
- In a flexed elbow
- Safe disposal of tissue (closed bin)
- Wash hands thoroughly



## Distance

- Do not shake hands or hug
- Keep a safe distance from others
- Avoid group gatherings

Do not touch your

**FACE,  
MOUTH  
& EYES**

if you have not  
washed your hands  
thoroughly with  
soap and water.



Steve Tshwete  
Education Complex  
Zone 6, Zwelitsha  
Private Bag X0032  
Bhisho, 5605



Call centre  
080 1212 570

[www.ecdoe.gov.za](http://www.ecdoe.gov.za)

Issued by:  
Eastern Cape Department  
of Education, Physical  
Resources Management