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No 496

8 June 2007

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**APPOINTMENT OF MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON SCHOOLS THAT WORK**

I, Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor, MP, Minister of Education, hereby appoint a Ministerial Committee on Schools That Work.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The Committee will, in cooperation with Mr D Hindle, the Director-General of Education -
 - a. Conduct research in a sample of successful secondary schools (as measured by learner achievement in the national senior certificate examinations) selected by the Department of Education (DoE) in order to:
 - (i) Explore the circumstances under which schools perform well in the national senior certificate examinations in order to answer the question: What enables some schools to succeed where others in similar situations fail?
 - (ii) Identify conditions under which schools operate successfully.
 - (iii) Investigate the alignment of department policies and requirements with the practices of these succeeding schools.
 - (iv) Document and determine whether there are replicable lessons that can be applied to other less successful schools.
 - b. Review and draw on domestic and international literature to identify the factors that explain why some schools produce good results under difficult conditions when others cannot do so.
 - c. Submit a report to the DoE on both qualitative and quantitative findings that:
 - (i) Informs the Minister with case study snapshots of a number of individual schools as well as quantitative analysis of the sample schools.
 - (ii) Identifies features of or good practices in the successful schools in order to provide the basis for further, possibly continuing or longitudinal, research study on school success and failure.

- (iii) Provides recommendations for possible interventions to spread or to maintain good practices.
- (iv) Provides detailed profiles of each of the sampled schools.

2. Following persons will be appointed to conduct this research on behalf of the Minister of Education:

- Prof. P Christie
- Dr. Dawn Butler
- Mr. Mark Potterton

TIME FRAME

3. The Committee will begin its work on 18 May 2007 and submit its final report to the Minister by 30 August 2007.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT ACT

4. The appointment of the Committee is subject to the provisions of regulations 20, Part 8, of the Treasury Regulations for Departments, Trading Entities, Constitutional Institutions and Public Entities, issued in terms of the PFMA.



GRACE NALEDI MANDISA PANDOR, MP

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

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