



GAUTENG PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

Att: News Editors

For immediate release

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MEC Lesufi horrified about 21 break-ins and vandalism at schools during lockdown

The Gauteng Education MEC Mr. Panyaza Lesufi, is horrified that about 21 schools were burgled and vandalized during the 21-day Lockdown period.

Accordingly, the Department has witnessed about twenty-one (21) criminal activities at different schools which accordingly are indicative of a trend by criminals to take advantage of the 21-day lockdown to rob and vandalize schools. However, it must be noted that such incidents are normally experienced during school recess, as by nature schools are often soft targets because of quietness and lack of activity around them during the said period.

Criminals took advantage of the lock-down to break-in and vandalize eighteen (18) schools in Gauteng.

The schools are:

1. Mofolo Primary School in Evaton;
2. Tsokodibane Primary School in Evaton;
3. Beverly High School in Evaton;
4. Katleho Impumelo Primary School in Sebokeng; and
5. Dinokaneng Secondary School in Evaton;
6. Phuthanang Primary School in Soshanguve
7. Lotus Gardens Secondary School in Lotus Gardens
8. Makhosini Secondary School in Soshanguve
9. Nonto Primary School in Soweto

10. Isipho Primary School in Soweto
11. Bervelly Primary School in Sebokeng
12. Ikokobetse Primary School in Bophelong
13. Atlehang Primary School in Mabopane
14. Pholosho Primary School in Tsakane
15. Caiphus Nyoka Secondary in Etwatwa
16. Tlakula Secondary School in KwaThema
17. Tembisa High School in Tembisa
18. Leondale Secondary School in Leondale

Valuable equipment and school nutrition groceries were stolen during the burglaries.

It must be emphasized that, this will have a huge impact and affect proper functioning of schools.

Fire erupted at three (3) schools in Tshwane because of suspected premeditated arson

The following three (3) schools were destroyed by fire:

- Amogelang Secondary School in Soshanguve;
- Lethabong Secondary School in Soshanguve; and
- Phuthanang Primary school in Soshanguve

We, think a collective effort to detect and report incidents to law enforcement agencies might yield positive results in curbing this criminality.

SGB Associations are advised to reinforce security measures. Members of the Community are encouraged to protect their schools and report incidents swiftly.

Members of the Community are also urged to not to buy stolen goods.

We, wish to reiterate our plea to the Police to continue prioritize schools' patrols; and conduct thorough investigations to apprehend perpetrators.

Valuable equipment and school nutrition groceries were stolen during these burglaries.

"This is appalling and unbelievable, that we are actually on day 12 of the Lockdown, one ponders on how will the picture look like after this period. The members of the community are encouraged to continue report to the Police. Indeed we cannot allow this barbarism to continue rob our children their future. said MEC Lesufi.

For more information, contact the Gauteng Department of Education's Spokesperson, Steve Mabona on 072 574 3860.

Issued by the Gauteng Department of Education

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