

MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

Att: News Editors

For immediate release

22 October 2018

GDE Working Tirelessly to Place learners in Public Schools

The Gauteng Department of Education wishes to inform the public that a total number of **228 050 (80.63%)** learners have been placed in all public schools, as of 22 October 2018. Out of the said figure, a total number of **123 548** Grade 1 and **104 502** Grade 8 learners have been placed.

It must be noted that a total of **54 773 or 19.37%** learners have not been placed, **25 913** Grade 1 **and 28 860** Grade 8. It is concerning that about **34 109** learners have not submitted required documents, as per admissions regulations.

The Department is working tirelessly to ensure that all unplaced learners who applied during the application period are placed by 31 October 2018 deadline. We wish to appeal to parents who have not yet submitted required documents to immediately visit their nearest District Office for necessary submission. It must be emphasized that failure to submit required documents will hinder the process of placing all affected learners.

It must be noted that, all unplaced learners will be offered placement at schools with available space, regrettably, it might not be at their school of choice.

The Department has a total of about 2 013 Public Ordinary Schools that offer Grade 1 and 8. It must be noted that most of these schools received applications beyond their school capacity. To date more than

440 schools have unfortunately reached capacity, and we will not overcrowd them.

"We appeal to parents not to despair as we are working around the clock to ensure that all learners are placed", said MEC Panyaza Lesufi.

End/

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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