



GAUTENG PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

**To: All Media
Att: News Editors
For immediate release**

14 January 2023

GDE APOLOGISES TO PREMIER AND PUBLIC

The Gauteng Department of Education wishes to extend its sincerest apologies to Gauteng Premier Panyaza Lesufi and the broader society for a misunderstanding that took place on 11 January 2023 during the launch of Mapenane Secondary School in Ga-Rankuwa where there was an unfortunate perception of girl learners being paraded while they were receiving dignity packs.

The girl learners that were seen on stage with the Premier are NOT the beneficiaries, but we're instead representatives of learners who will be receiving and benefitting from these dignity packs.

When the Premier was invited to the event, the handing over of dignity packs was not on the programme, therefore the Premier was not scheduled to participate in the handover of said dignity packs.

We apologise for the misconception that this gesture caused.

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

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Issued by the Gauteng Department of Education