

TO NEWS EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS

FROM THE MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

09 APRIL 2026

PRINCIPAL OF MAGWAGWAZA SECONDARY SCHOOL RELIEVED OF HIS DUTIES

The Department welcomes the recent Arbitration Award confirming the dismissal of the principal of Magwagwaza Secondary School in Bohlabela District in Bushbuckridge Local Municipality.

This outcome follows a thorough and fair process which found the principal guilty of engaging in inappropriate sexual relationships with learners, a conduct that constitutes a grave violation of professional ethics and the law.

The principal was placed on precautionary suspension after serious allegations of sexual misconduct were brought to the Department's attention.

At all times, due process was followed to ensure both accountability and fairness.

The Department remains committed to safeguarding the well-being and the safety of every learner in its care.

It does not tolerate any conduct that undermines learners' ability to realise their full potential.

This decision marks an important step in strengthening accountability and reinforces our zero-tolerance stance on any form of abuse or exploitation of learners.

Such behaviour is a profound breach of trust and fundamentally erodes the integrity of the teaching profession.

The Department always prioritizes efforts to create safe, respectful and enabling learning environments where all learners can thrive, free from any form of harassment and exploitation.

The Department will continue to act decisively against any violations of its policies and ethical standards, ensuring that the trust placed in educators is protected and upheld at all times.

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