



**TO : CHIEF DIRECTOR: DISTRICT COORDINATION
DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CIRCUIT MANAGERS
PRINCIPALS
REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF LEARNERS
LEADERS OF THE EDUCATION SECTOR UNIONS
CHAIRPERSONS OF SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES**

**FROM : MRS LH MOYANE
HEAD: EDUCATION**

DATE : 05 APRIL 2024

PARTICIPATION IN THE WEDNESDAY SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

The Mpumalanga Department of Education in collaboration with the Department of Culture, Sports and Recreation and Sport Associations has elected to resuscitate the **Wednesday School Sports Days**.

All Public Ordinary Schools are therefore encouraged to organise themselves towards the realisation of this injunction to foster pride, honour and patriotism in our school –going youth through properly organised, managed and coordinated schools sport programmes.

This must help to develop functional and vibrant institutions of learning and centres for community life and to ensure increased access to school’s sport programme.

It must create access to mass participation of learners in sport activities.

Principals are expected to ensure that this programme is implemented within the school curriculum and to use sports to promote social cohesion.

Principals are further requested to work with the sports structures within their jurisdiction to ensure mass participation of learners in sport on Wednesdays in a well-managed manner.

In his address to the meeting with Sports Associations and Federations, the MEC for Education, **Mr Bonakele Majuba** said:

“The realisation of this dream has to be a product of broad consultation, bringing everyone on board and evoke mass participation in school’s sport.

Such a product needs to be aligned to the legal framework that governs the day to day running of schools and it must not be seen as an added responsibility but an integral part of the schooling agenda.

Our view is that Schools Sports must happen naturally especially to the poorest communities so that it could serve as a vehicle for sports careers as well as the creation and fostering of a healthy life style.

Our success in this does not need to be only based and influenced by the availability of budget allocation, it must be school based and community driven.

Notwithstanding the fact that there needs to be proper infrastructure to enable this realisation, children must be able to play and showcase their talents in an organised and well managed space,” he emphasised.

To this end, schools governing bodies are encouraged to:

- Enter into discussions about how best this initiative can be realised based on available resources and to establish school sports committees, develop a clear programme of action relating to school sport implementation plan.
- Agree on sports codes to be considered for learner participation and to consider the needs and interests expressed by learners and parents in the quest to promote sports in their respective schools.
- Support teachers/ officials to participate in circuit sports committees and provide access facilities to promote schools sport activities.
- Align its sports programmes towards the realisation of the Wednesday Sports Day.
- Participate fully in Wednesday Sports Days.

Circuit Managers are directed to show interest and to take a lead working together with sports organisations within their areas of operation.

They must ensure successful implementation of curriculum enrichment programmes and develop Circuit Sports Policies..

They need to support, monitor, evaluate, report and review school's sports programmes within their circuits.

The sporting codes must be selected in consultation and based on the material conditions, feasibility and consensus with all relevant sports associations.

Circuit Managers are further required to:

- Establish the Circuit Sports Committee.
- Monitor the participation of schools in this initiative and ensure that it occurs in a well organised manner.
- Participate in the District Sports Committees.
- Ensure that this initiative helps to foster social cohesion, integration and unearth talents.
- Encourage the participation of all schools including special schools.

District Directors are expected to:

- Establish District Sports Committees.
- Collaborate with Sports Federations/Associations.
- Ensure maximum participation on Wednesday School Sports Day.
- Facilitate the formation of District School Sport Leagues within Districts.
- Monitor participation on Wednesday School Sports Day.

Head Office is expected to:

- Establish a Provincial Sports Committee.
- Formulate Policy Framework for School Sports.
- Collaborate with Sports Federation/Associations at a Provincial Level.
- Ensure maximum participation and support for the Wednesday School Sports Day.
- Monitor, Support and Promote School Sports.
- Maximize access to sport, recreation and physical education.
- Promote participation in sports and recreation by initiating and implementing targeted campaigns.

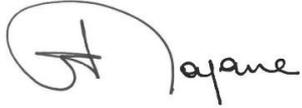
The Wednesday School Sports Day is meant to provide learners with opportunities to free their potential and to improve their health and well-being.

The participation of learners with Special Education Needs is encouraged.

The positive side of having sports and physical education is that it helps learners develop their social skills to work with other teammates, make new friends and learn how rewarding it is to participate in team sports, have high values and display ethical behavior.

Your corporation in this regard will be highly appreciated.

Kind Regards,



MRS LH MOYANE
HEAD: EDUCATION
DATE: 05 APRIL 2024