



## **NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS UNION (NPSWU)**

**Durban Head Office**  
22 Davenport Avenue  
Glenwood, 4001  
P.O. Box 1100,  
Durban, 4000  
Tel: 031 304 7563  
Fax: 031 307 3306  
npswu@mweb.co.za  
www.npswu.org

**Johannesburg**  
301-3rd Floor  
85 Royal Palace Building  
Corner Kerk & Eloff Street  
P.O. Box 6672,  
Johannesburg, 2000  
Tel: 011 333 7981  
Fax: 011 333 7980  
jhb@npswu.org

**Limpopo**  
Limpopo Provincial Office  
19A Grobler Street  
3rd Floor, Office No. 309  
Tel: (015) 291 1276  
Fax: (015) 291 1514  
0865857858  
Email: risimati@npswu.org  
Web: www.npswu.org

### **SCHOOLS TO BE OPENED IN JUNE**

20 May 2020

They were many debates whether schools should reopen or not during this COVID-19 outbreak. Yesterday education's minister Angie Motshekga announced the reopening of school in June. It is only grade 12 and 7 that will be opening at this moment. The subject was discussed with the cabinet and the National Coronavirus Command Council and they all approved and gave go ahead.



Some preparations need to be done to ensure that the learners are safe during this time, like schools being cleaned before the arrival of scholars, providing all schools with sanitisers, masks and water to schools without clean water.

“The Department of Basic Education was in the process of distributing essential sanitisers, masks, water and sanitation facilities,” Motshekga said.

As of beginning of May the wearing of masks became compulsory when living home and going to a number of people. Therefore, it will be compulsory for scholars to wear masks for the whole day while they are in school starting when they get into their transportation to school.

Motshekga advised parents to work with schools to make sure the pupils with pre-existing illness are also assisted, parents need to give needed information to the teachers regarding the child's wellbeing.

The curriculum will be trimmed. Schools will be sent a curriculum that has been trimmed so that the schools could work around it.

Since schools will be practising social distancing and health hygiene, they will be no sports in school and no school trips till further notice.



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As this may increase the chances of infections. “When class is dismissed, learners must go home,” said Motshekga.

School nutrition programme to reopen. People supplying learners with food will need to have protective equipment including gloves, aprons and cloth masks, she said.

The reopening of special schools and early childhood development centres is being considered as they need more care and more protective equipment.

Parents are not obligated to send their children to school during this time as they may apply for them in 2021 if they have some hesitations.