



# Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

WCPP11/4/10

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

**Tuesday, 16 September 2025 (13h00), Virtual meeting via MS Teams**

1. Briefing by the SAPS Chairperson on the Safe Schools Prov Joints sub-committee, which includes representatives from the WCED, Social Development, and Community Safety on the mandate, scope of work, and its role in addressing school safety and broader socioeconomic challenges.
2. Briefing by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) on the safety and security of learners, including discipline, given recent incidents at schools.

#### Present

##### **Democratic Alliance**

Johnson, P  
Kaizer-Philander, W F  
Walters, T C R  
Van Minnen, B M

##### **African National Congress**

Sayed, M K

##### **Patriotic Alliance**

Stephens, D R

##### **Apology**

Christians, C F (ACDP)

#### **Officials in attendance:**

(See attached list of departmental officials and members of the public who were in attendance.)

#### **1. Opening and welcome**

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed all present. The Minister of Education, Mr D Maynier, WCED officials, Brigadier ZP Matumbu, South African Police Service and members of the public were present at the meeting.

2. **Briefing by the SAPS Chairperson on the Safe Schools Prov Joints sub-committee, which includes representatives from the WCED, Social Development, and Community Safety on the mandate, scope of work, and its role in addressing school safety and broader socioeconomic challenges.**

Brigadier ZP Matumbu, SAPS: Provincial Head: Pro-Active Policing, presented.

The presentation outlines the renewed collaborative protocol between the Department of Basic Education (DBE) and the South African Police Service (SAPS), signed in June 2025, which operationalises Pillar 2 of the Integrated Crime and Violence Prevention Strategy. The protocol establishes a joint workplan to strengthen school safety through visible policing, intelligence sharing, and proactive interventions in identified hotspot areas. Key activities include linking schools to local police stations, conducting searches and seizures in line with the South African Schools Act, vetting of staff, addressing gangsterism and substance abuse, and ensuring compliance with liquor regulations near schools. The plan further prioritises the establishment and monitoring of School Safety Committees, the implementation of crime prevention programmes, and targeted interventions to combat gender-based violence and learner-on-learner violence.

Progress reports indicate that 26 schools across the province have been prioritised, with 92% of programmes implemented by September 2025, reaching over 3,000 learners. The deployment of School Resource Officers (SROs) to 54 schools, funded jointly by the Western Cape Education Department and the City of Cape Town, underscores the commitment to sustained visibility and support. Provincial programmes, including career expos, youth camps, and holiday initiatives, complement operational measures such as search-and-seizure operations and compliance inspections. The way forward emphasises quarterly reporting, interprovincial coordination, and continued engagement with community policing forums to ensure that all provinces roll out the protocol effectively, thereby enhancing safety and resilience in schools and surrounding communities.

The Committee deliberated on the presentation.

3. **Briefing by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) on the safety and security of learners, including discipline, given recent incidents at schools.**

Mr A Meyer, Deputy Director-General: Institution Development and Coordination in the WCED presented.

The presentation by the WCED sets out a comprehensive and integrated strategy for ensuring the safety and security of learners, while simultaneously strengthening discipline across schools in the province. It emphasises that safety and discipline are inseparable pillars of a functional school environment, requiring systemic, evidence-informed interventions. The framework includes controlled access to school premises, daily and period registers, customised Codes of Conduct, and active supervision during breaks. Discipline is approached through restorative practices, anti-bullying campaigns, and positive behaviour programmes, supported by School-Based Support Teams and district-level psychosocial services. The Department underscores that safety and discipline must be embedded in school culture, reinforced by clear rules, consistent enforcement, and proactive engagement with learners, parents, and educators.

The strategic plan further highlights the deployment of School Resource Officers (SROs) in partnership with the City of Cape Town, targeting high-risk schools with visible policing, mentorship, and early intervention. Structures such as School Safety Committees and Cluster Safety Committees are mandated to drive localised safety planning, supported by the Safe Schools Call Centre and the School

Safety Resilience Scorecard for monitoring and evaluation. Successes reported include thousands of school visits, searches, and interventions, contributing to safer learning environments and stronger community-police partnerships. The Department concludes that these measures, together with environmental upgrades, behavioural programmes, and systemic reforms, are restoring confidence in the education system and ensuring that schools remain secure, disciplined, and conducive to quality learning.

The Committee deliberated on the presentation.

The Chairperson thanked SAPS and WCED officials for their contribution.

#### **4. Resolutions**

The Committee RESOLVED:

- 4.1. To engage with Western Cape Liquor Authority, and its Governing Board, regarding the approval of liquor trading licenses to outlets located within close proximity to schools.
- 4.2. To visit a school with a cell-phone free policy for learners.

#### **5. Request for Information**

The Committee REQUESTED that the WCED:

- 5.1. A list of schools that have a safety plan.
- 5.2. A list of school governing boards that are functional, and non-functional.

Having concluded the business of the day, the Chairperson thanked Members of the Committee.

The Committee meeting adjourned at 15h49.



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**MPP, MR P JOHNSON**  
**CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**  
**WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT**

