



OFFICE OF THE MEC

DATE : 11 FEBRUARY 2020

**TO : THE CHAIRPERSON
PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION**

FROM : NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**SUBJECT : REPORT ON THE PETITION FROM DRYHARTS VILLAGE ON RE-OPENING
OF MOLEHABANGWE MIDDLE SCHOOL AS A PRIMARY SCHOOL**

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 MOLEHABANGWE MIDDLE SCHOOL



The school started in 1982 with four classrooms after the late Kgosi Motlhamare Mahura donated the bricks which were supposed to build his house. Two additional classrooms were later added by the community through contributions of building funds. The Department of Education erected sanitation blocks in 2014.

The school was registered as a middle school offering standards 5 – 7, later called grades 7 – 9. The school later offered grade 8 and 9 due to the fact that primary schools were allocated grade 7. In 2015 the school was approved to offer grade 10.

2. PROFILING OF DRYHARTS SCHOOLS

Previously, Dryharts Village had four schools which can be described briefly as follows individually:

2.1 MOLEMOENG PRIMARY SCHOOL



Molemoeng Primary school is situated at Dryharts village, which is 43KM from Vryburg on the N18 road. The school was established in 1989 and was named after the wife of Kgosi Jerry Motlhamare Mahura. The school started with four classrooms. The contributions towards the building were from the community. 4 teachers from Dryharts Primary were deployed to Molemoeng and Mrs K. E. Pudi acted as the Principal. In 1990, Mrs F.K. Mahura was appointed the first Principal of the school and went on retirement in 2015. Over the years, the number of learners increased and the Department of Education erected additional classrooms, NSNP room, Grade R classrooms and administration block due to the increasing enrolment.

2.2 DRYHARTS PRIMARY SCHOOL



Dryharts Primary was established with a deserted farm house as classrooms in 1935. It was until 1980, under the management of Mr G.D. Rakoi that community members raised funds and managed to build 8 classrooms. Because of high enrolment of learners, the old farm house accommodated 7 classrooms. The following churches also accommodated the learners:

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- Methodist Church of South Africa
 - Pentecostal Church of South Africa
 - United Congregational Church of South Africa
 - New Apostolic Church
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The community of Dryharts identified a site and built 8 classrooms; the Department then added 4 classrooms, ablution block, fence and provided 5 mobile classrooms. 4 additional classrooms were erected as a donation from the Japan embassy in 2019.

2.3 BOIJANE HIGH SCHOOL



Boijane High School began in 1993 with three grade 10 classes. Mrs Macheu was the first principal of the school. It was the first high school in Dryharts village. For 4 years till 1997 Boijane high school operated from the premises of Sekate middle school.

The school moved to its own premises in 1997, adjacent to Sekate Mahura middle school. The first matric was the class of 1996.

2.4 SEKATE MAHURA MIDDLE SCHOOL



The school started in 1975 with no accommodation, and was temporarily accommodated by Methodist church and Full Gospel Church next to Dryharts Primary. The school moved to the newly constructed premises in January 1976.

2. RATIOANALISATION OF SCHOOLS

Background and context

The process of merging and closing of the schools was done in line with section 12A of the SASA Act 84 of 1996.

The process of rationalization of schools is informed by various policy dictates, but primarily the Ministerial Committee on Rural Education (2005) that proposes that all public ordinary schools should be classified as primary (Grades R-7) or secondary schools (Grades 8-12).

The purpose of rationalization was to close and merge small schools to make them viable, to de-combine schools and to abolish middle schools with the intention to have only two types of schools in the country namely: Primary schools with grade R -7 and Secondary schools with grade 8 -12.

The intention of the Department to align the schooling landscape in the Province started in earnest with the publication of a Gazette on school merging in 2007. The District started to align the schooling landscape in 2012. The District had different types of schools including middle schools, which constituted a unique feature in the schooling landscape.

Rationalization process was finalized in Dryharts by the end of 2015. There were 3 schools namely, Molehabangwe Middle school offering Grade 8 -10 situated inside the village, Sekate Mahura Middle school outside the village along the N18 road and Boijane High school situated outside the village next to Sekate Mahura along the N18 road.

During the merging process, Molehabangwe had 250 learners, Boijane 250 learners and Sekate Mahura 150 learners to make a roll of +- 650 learners. The three schools merged in January 2016. Molehabangwe Middle school was closed, Boijane and Sekate Mahura buildings were then utilized as Sekate Boijane Mahura Secondary.

3. SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

3.1 REQUEST FROM COMMUNITY TO RE-OPEN MOLEHABANGWE SCHOOL

On the 20 June 2019, the Circuit Manager Rev G.K.F Letebele, received a letter from Kgosi Tshepo Mankuroane, the Paramount Chief of the Batlhaping Ba ga Phuduhucwana Traditional Authority, requesting on behalf of the Dryharts community for Molehabangwe Middle school to be re-opened and the school be named Molehabangwe Primary school.

On the 25 June 2019, the Circuit Manager went to the school for inspection and forwarded the request to the District Director on the 26 June 2019 for consideration.

4. DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S CONSIDERATION

Due to the new settlement that is growing towards Vryburg road, as the Department of Education considered to open Molehabangwe Middle school as a Primary school only from 2021 due to the following reasons:

The current inhabitable status of the building

Profiling learners from Molemoeng Primary who are coming from the area where Molehabangwe is situated.

2020 to be used for proper planning and resourcing of the envisaged Molehabangwe Primary School

Consultative meetings will be held with the following stakeholders:

Principals and teachers of affected local schools

School Governing Bodies and Parents

Tribal Authorities and Communities

Labour unions

Identification of resources such as:

School furniture, ICT equipment, etc.

Learner Teacher Support Material

5. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

5.1 Molemoeng Primary School

Number of classrooms = (15 classrooms + 5 mobile classrooms)

Learner enrolment = 801

Number of teachers = 23 teachers (Teacher: Learner ratio - 1:35)

School Furniture (402 tables and 804 chairs for learners)

Toilets = (20 seats of flush toilets for both boys and girls)

LTSM Supply = Orders delivered

5.2 Dryharts Primary School

Number of classrooms = (15 classrooms + 5 mobile classrooms)

Learner enrolment = 637

Number of teachers= 18 teachers (Teacher: Learner ratio - 1:36)

School Furniture (318 tables and 640 chairs for learners)

Toilets = (14 seats of flush toilets for both boys and girls)

LTSM Supply = Orders delivered

5.3 Sekate Boijane Mahura Secondary School

Number of classrooms = 20

Learner enrolment = 652

Number of teachers (20 teachers - Teacher: Learner ratio 1:35)

School Furniture (326 tables and 654 chairs for learners)

Toilets = 37 seats for girls and 16 for boys needed

LTSM Supply = Orders delivered

6. LEARNER TRANSPORT AND THE ALLEGED R150 FARE

In terms of the North West Province guidelines for schools on learner transport, states that the learners staying further than 5 km (single) away from the school qualify to be transported, on provision that those learners attend the nearest school to the parents' residence.

Dryharts schools do not qualify for learner transport because the radius the learners travel to school is less than 3 km

It is true that parents have arranged transport to fare learners at an amount of R150.

7. INFRASTRUTURAL CONDITION OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS AT DRYHARTS AND A NEED OF A PRIMARY SCHOOL IN THE AREA

7.1 Dryharts Primary School

There are 16 classrooms and 5 mobile classrooms. The toilets are water borne and in good condition but there is a shortage of ground water in Dryharts village.

7.2 Molemoeng Primary

There are 15 classrooms and 5 mobile classrooms. The school has a large administration block, 20 water borne toilets seats, grade R block and NSNP kitchen.

8. BUILDING CONDITION ASSESSMENT REPORT OF MOLEHABANGWE

The school has 6 brick and mortar classrooms, small administration block, a block of water borne toilets with 15 seats.

There is a borehole operated by an engine. The school is still connected to electricity which is operational.

The building is having a proper fence around it which needs some minor repairs.

The building in general is still intact and needs minor repairs.

The maintenance needed include amongst others the following:

Painting of walls in and out

Replacement of broken window panes

Replacement of broken doors

Replacement of chalkboards and notice boards

Replacement fallen ceiling

Repairs of electricity, especially plugs; lights and switches

Equipping of borehole with electric pump and supply of water tank

9. ITS FITNESS FOR HUMAN OCCUPATION (INHABITATION) AND RE-USE AS A SCHOOL

The school is still fit for human occupation. It will need minor renovation as indicated above. There will also be a need for 2 mobile classrooms to accommodate grade R to 7 learners of a primary school. It should be mentioned that the community took care of the building against vandalism.

10. ESTIMATED FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR MOHALEBANGWE PRIMARY

Infrastructure = R2 500 000.00 (major renovations and fence)

LTSM = R320 000,00

School furniture = R150 000,00

11. OPINION W.R.T THE PETITION - WILL MOLEHABANGWE PRIMARY BE VIABLE AS A SCHOOL BASED ON THE POPULATION DYNAMICS OF THE AREA AND RELATED FACTORS

The school will be viable because of a new settlement that is growing rapidly towards Vryburg. According to the statistics obtained from the nearby school Molemoeng Primary, there are 316 learners coming from the area where Molehabangwe is situated. They are distributed as follows according to grades:

Grade R = 29

Grade 1 = 36

Grade 2 = 44

Grade 3 = 40

Grade 4 = 51

Grade 5 = 35

Grade 6 = 33

Grade 7 = 48
TOTAL = 316

The school will be re-registered to be operational in 2021 academic year and be furnished with all the necessary resources during 2020.

12. MANAGEMENT PLAN – MOLEHABANGWE PRIMARY

1N0	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE	BUDGET	PROGRESS
1	Building assessment	Circuit Manager	25 June 2019	None	The report was sent to the District Director on 26 June 2019
2	Profiling of schools	Circuit Manager	Sep – Oct 2019	None	Report submission to the District Director towards the end of October 2019
3	Scoping	Works Inspectors	03 Feb 2020	None	Finalised on 07 Feb 2020
	Bill of quantity/ Renovations	Works Inspectors	07 Feb 2020	R2,5M	
	Learner identification	Circuit Manager/Principal of Molemoeng	Feb 2020	None	
4	Re-registration of the school	CES Curriculum	March 2010	None	
4	Consultative meetings	Circuit Manager	March 2020		
5	Procurement of LTSM	LTSM Manager	03 August 2020	R320 000	
6	Procurement of School furniture	SCM	03 August 2020	R150 000	
7	SGB Elections	IGSS Officials	Sep 2020		
8	Deployment of teachers	Circuit Manager	Nov 2020		

12.2 DRYHARTS PRIMARY, MOLEMOENG PRIMARY AND SEKATE BOIJANE MAHURA SEC

SCHOOL	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE		PROGRESS
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Dryharts Primary	Scoping	Works Inspectors	03 Feb 2020	None	
	Bill of quantity/ Renovations	Works Inspectors	07 Feb 2020	R1.5M	
Molemoeng Primary	Scoping	Works Inspectors	03 Feb 2020	None	
	Bill of quantity/ Renovations	Works Inspectors	07 Feb 2020	R3.4M	
Sekate Boijane Mahura Secondary	Scoping	Works Inspectors	03 Feb 2020	None	
	Bill of quantity/ Renovations	Works Inspectors	07 Feb 2020	R4.5M	

13, PICTORIAL REPRESENTATION OF MOLEHABANGWE SCHOOL







The Department of Education supports the re-opening of Molehabangwe Primary school.

Hoping that you will find this in order

Cc : Superintendent-General of Education, North West Province

: MEC of Education, North West Province