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Ref2301

**TO: Honorable Bircqo-Gigaba**

**PRESENTATION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON 5 MARCH 2021**

**Governors’ Alliance wishes to thank the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee for the opportunity to attend this session.**

**Two items will be highlighted during this session –**

**Infrastructure – public schools are experiencing challenges with infrastructure in particular the roofs in many old buildings and some relatively newer structures. The challenge of the long lists in Provinces for schools to receive attention for such repairs or even replacements of the school roof has become urgent in many instances.**

**The challenge of the roofs of schools that are not timeously repaired or replaced can result in the building and classrooms structure been compromised and possibly even condemned for occupation by learners and teachers.**

**School Governing Bodies**

**At the advent of the Education White Paper and then the South African Schools Act of 1997, it was mooted that SGBs would be self managing schools. Over the last number of years SGBs have had various powers and functions taken away. So we need to examine does the SGB envisaged in early 1997 exist today. The answer is the SGB today is not what was envisaged in the early days.**

**The SASA has been amended nine ( 9) times during which various changes to the powers and functions of SGBs have taken place.**

**We appeal to the Portfolio Committee to look into this.**

**We appeal to the Portfolio Committee to consider the upcoming 9th SGB Elections which are currently taking place. Is democracy alive and well in public schools! Do SGBs get the required training for them to carry out their statutory functions as required by SASA?**

**We need to have SGBs that are democratically elected and that are empowered to engage with their roles and functions as outlined in the South African Schools Act No. 84 of 1996 (as amended).**

**Thank you**

**Governors’ Alliance**