

Dear Muizenberg High Family

After the Minister of the Department of Basic Education Angie Motshekga addressed and briefed the nation on the road forward in terms of school reopening and their proposed planning and dates many of our school body has experienced anxiety, and unanswered questions as you consider and contemplate the return to school. The Department of Basic Education and the Provincial Department of Education are faced with different scenarios, as schooling involves many stakeholders, including SGB associations and teacher unions, curriculum and timeframes. Although we are still awaiting for directives from the Provincial Department of Education (WCED) I would like to give you as much information and feedback as possible.

If ALL the conditions in terms of Health and Safety are met according to the Standard Operating Procedures for the containment and management of COVID - 19 , which the DBE has developed in consultation with the Department of Health, we (the SMT, non-teaching staff) will be able to return to school on May 11. During this time we will have meetings to ensure we follow directives and guidelines from WCED to put safety and health measures in place. We will prepare the classrooms and the school building to meet the required standards.

The SMT and the COVID -19 committee will ensure that we plan our curriculum delivery according to the new timeframes and the curriculum amendments. We will familiarize ourselves with regulations and prepare operating procedures in line with the Standard Operating Procedures, this will include issues such as the daily running of the school, break-times, limitations in movement, and incremental return of learners, to name but a few.

On May 18 the rest of the staff will return to school. They will engage with the amended curriculum and align the curriculum delivery, both online/ digital/ e-learning, and the physical teaching with the new requirements. As soon as we receive the amended curriculum (if it happens before 18 May) we will immediately teach to the requirements in terms of assessments and assignments.

As the learners return during the phased –in period we will put in every effort to assist them to get back on board. We are very proud of our parents who tirelessly assist their children. Your home partnership is invaluable and I salute you for your patience and assistance. We do not expect you to teach them. The work we cover at the moment is slowly moving into the second term’s work because we do not know what in the amended curriculum will be kept and what will be cut.

GRADE 12:

- It is most likely the only grade where the curriculum will be as planned.
- We will communicate regularly with the grade 12’s as new information emerges.
- A concerted effort must be done at home for our Grade 12 learners to make sure they revise term one well and that they progress with the new work.

Until now we only have the WEB and the FACEBOOK page to communicate work with our learners. These two platforms were never created for this purpose and we apologise when some of the work cannot be downloaded or are in photo format. Please know that my staff is trying and some do not have the devices to send it in a different format. We have requested that they must put in every effort to ensure it can be printed.

I am extremely happy to announce that we are busy creating a digital structure to reach most of our learners individually, and in groups. We have created gmail accounts for ALL our learners (Muizenberg High domain) which opens a wider digital net to create platforms to reach our learners. I will keep you up to date on our progress and our IT manager and CAT teacher will assist teachers, parents and learners to access the platforms once they are created.

During this time and under lockdown level 4 regulations only the SMT and the non-teaching staff may be on the premises. It is impossible to authorize the

collection of textbooks from lockers. I will ask the staff to put examples with their activities to assist the learners to do the work. Please contact me on my email: ljacobsen@muizenberghigh.org.za should you have any concerns or queries. I will direct it to the right staff member or I will assist you.

Your childrens' future and their 2020 academic year are of paramount importance to us and we have their backs!

Keep well, keep safe and keep up the good spirit!

Mrs Leonie Jacobsen

Principal