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CHAIRPERSONS OF SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

KZN CIRCULAR NO. 18 OF 2020

CREATING AWARENESS AND COMMUNICATING PREVENTATIVE MEASURES FOR REDUCTION OF TRANSMISSION OF NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

- 1. Few cases of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection have been reported in the country and some of the reported cases are in KwaZulu-Natal.
- 2. As KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education we have a responsibility to communicate important information and control measures for purposes of control and prevention of the spread of the virus throughout the system, especially in all public schools.
- 3. In doing so, we should not create unnecessary panic in the system but communicate correct information and teach learners the simple steps to prevent infection and manage the spread of the virus.
- 4. The Department of Health is a leading Department in managing the outbreak of COVID-19. As the Department of Education we are appealing for strict adherence to the guidelines and information provided below as approved by the Department of Health:
 - 4.1 Protect yourself and others from getting sick by regularly washing your hands with soap and running water, especially after using the toilet and before preparing or eating food.
 - 4.2 Stay at home if you are sick, to prevent the spread of the infection.

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- 4.3 Avoid close contact with others, when you are experiencing cough and fever. Close contact is within a space of 1-2m.
- 4.4 When coughing and sneezing cover your mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue and then throw used tissue into closed bin immediately after use. Wash your hands immediately, or use an alcohol based hand sanitizer, if you cannot use soap and water immediately.
- 4.5 Wipe all surfaces, including counter tops and tables, with soap and water, frequently.
- 4.6 Seek medical care from the local clinic as early as possible when you do not feel well. Share previous travel history with the care provider.
- 4.7 A close contact is a person who was in direct contact with a person who has been confirmed by the laboratory, to have COVID-19.
- 5. Any school excursions/trips whether within the province or outside the province must be approved by the Head of Department.
- 6. International excursions must be halted until further notice even if the schools had already received approval from the Department.
- 7. Contents of this circular must be communicated immediately at all levels.

Your co-operation is highly appreciated.

Dr E V Nzama

Head Department: Education

Date: 09/03/2020