District Joint Operation and Intelligence Structure, PROVJOINTS, as well as intergovernmental relations structures. The efficacy and continuation of joint deployments are considered through these established structures in consultation with relevant national security authorities responsible for the respective deployment.

In terms of the last question, this question should be referred to the department- it is not relevant to the department, as the provision of immediate social relief to affected families does not fall within the mandate of the Gauteng Department of Community Safety; however, we have referred this matter to the relevant Department of Social Development. Thank you so much, Honourable Member. Thank you so much, Honourable Chair of Chairs, for the questions.

CHAIR OF HAIRS: Thank you so much, Honourable Premier. That concludes your questions, sir. We move right along to Honourable- Oh, no, no, hold on. Honourable Member, any supplementary question or a short remark? My apology.

Mr DILEBO: Chair of Chairs, we thank the Premier for the comprehensive response. Thank you very much.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you so much. Thank you, Honourable Premier, for answering all the questions. Honourable Waters, you may ask your question to Honourable MEC Maile. Thank you so much.

Mr WATERS: Thank you, Chair, and through you to the MEC. [*Question 4.ED036*]

> *"In light of the four prohibition notices issued by the Department of Employment and Labour on 4 September 2026 concerning unsafe classrooms, asbestos exposure, inadequate sanitation and an unsafe kitchen at Eersterust Secondary School, as well as the recent incident in which three intruders entered a classroom and demanded money from learners and a cellphone from a teacher, can the MEC please indicate:*
>
> *(i) what immediate measures has the department implemented to ensure*

the safety of the school's 915 learners and teachers;

(ii) when will all learners be returning to fulltime teaching in safe classrooms; and

(iii) what is the confirmed date for the demolition of the old school and the rebuilding of the new school?"

I thank you, Chair.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you, Honourable Waters. Honourable MEC Maile, you may respond, sir. [Silence] MEC Maile, you may respond, sir.

MEC MAILE: Yes, can you hear me now, Chair?

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: I can hear you. I can hear you, MEC. Go ahead, please. Thank you.

MEC MAILE: Yes, thank you. Thank you very much. Let me start by thanking the Member for asking the question and acknowledging the question. The school has been provided with more mobile classes just to augment those classes that were not flagged, because not all of them were flagged just for purposes of exam, and that is an interim measure.

The SGB has also fixed some of the toilets to be used while the learners are writing exams. Extra mobile classes will be provided in [at] the beginning of the year to prepare for the academic year. But the safety of learners in all our schools, including this one, is a huge concern. We will be, in the interim, using the wardens but we will also attend to specific infrastructure issues like the issue of fence which we had built, and it was damaged by the community. We will also need to engage once again with that community because we need a sustainable and consistent working together, collaboration with the community because I think the issue is- it is a big issue and it is one of the few communities we have identified, where the issue is immediate and has to be dealt with and it is very serious; and we have

identified schools similar to it in every district so that we are able to be proactive, but anyway, the question is about this one. That will be the answer to the issue of safety, because I am sure the Honourable Member- Okay, maybe let me deal with this in the follow up, but we will deal with it and we are dealing with it, and we will also provide extra mobile classes, as I have said, in addition to those ones.

Answer to question (ii), learners have returned back to school, and they are currently writing their final examinations, according to the information we have; so, no learner will not write whilst we are dealing with the other issues.

On the issue of demolition and the rebuilding of the school, we- I think, there was a process started by the department before we got here, and there was a plan. There was a process that has to be consolidated with the municipality and all that, so I cannot give an exact date, but I must say that this is one of the schools that has to be rebuilt and it is not the only asbestos school that we have, and we have to rebuild urgently. I will gladly give an answer to the Member and the legislature once the date is there, so I do not want to thumb-suck any number. Thank you very much- I mean the date, sorry.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you. Thank you so much, Honourable MEC Maile. Honourable Waters, any supplementary question, sir, or short remark? [Silence] Honourable Waters? Am I audible?

UNRECOGNISED MEMBER: Chair of Chairs, Honourable Waters informed us that he has been kicked out of the meeting. If the administrative staff can just check on that, please.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Okay.

UNRECOGNISED MEMBER: Thank you.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: They can check. Thank you so much, Honourable, so, we will continue. Honourable Maile, we will come back to a short remark or are we- [interjection] Are you there? Okay

Mr WATERS: Yes.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Okay go ahead.

Mr WATERS: Chair, I was kicked- I was kicked out of the meeting, coincidentally, as the MEC was answering my question, so, I did not hear the reply to questions (ii) or (iii).

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Okay. Honourable MEC-

Mr WATERS: If the MEC could repeat them, I would really appreciate it, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you. Would you oblige, Honourable MEC? Thanks.

MEC MAILE: Yah. On question (ii), so the Member is saying on question (ii) and (iii). On question (ii), learners, all learners are writing their examinations. Interim measures have been put in place.

On the question (iii), I said I would not be at liberty to give you the date now, but the process has started and it was long started, but there are certain commitments that must be followed up with the City of Tshwane, and then we will be able- it is still in the planning staged, and then we will be able to give you the exact date once I have finalised all those issues with the officials of the department. Thank you.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you so much, Honourable MEC. Supplementary question, short remark, Honourable Waters, please.

Mr WATERS: Yes, Chair, thank you and thank you, MEC, for the reply. Just firstly, when the intruders entered the classroom and robbed the children and the teachers, the wardens were on the premises already and nothing happened.

Number two, there are only nine functioning classrooms, all with no electricity, so, I do not know how they are all writing exams in the dark and where these extra

classrooms have come from suddenly.

Three, it is telling that the department cannot give a date by when the new school will be built. The fact of the matter is, Chair, asbestos is being exposed and there is a health risk to all learners and teachers, and the school ought to be condemned. Is the MEC saying that he is satisfied that learners are going to the school with exposed asbestos? Thank you.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you so much, Honourable Waters. Honourable MEC, you may respond. [Silence] Honourable Maile, you may respond, MEC. [Silence]

MEC MAILE: Yes, yes, *eish* [gosh], it means I must not mute this thing, I must just keep it. The Member must not be dramatic. He must not be dramatic because I am on record giving a comprehensive report on the state of infrastructure and I am on record saying we need R27 billion, and this is not the only school. That is why I do not want to just thumb-suck numbers because we are working to prioritise all the schools. We need R27 billion to deal with OHS in all the schools. We need another R35 billion to build new schools, so, he must- Why would I be happy that kids are exposed to danger? I am a parent. He must not be dramatic. He must- If he has a solution he wants to propose, we are glad and we did even say that we have a plan which is short, medium and long term.

The Honourable Member must not use this to play politics. This is not a small matter; there are more other schools that are still having asbestos and we said we must- we must demolish them and we were going to do that. What I am not going to do is to play politics and just make pronouncements that are not going to be followed up and that are not sustainable. These are the livelihoods of people's children. These are the livelihoods of an African child, of a black child. I am not going to just make pronouncements because I want to appear that I am doing something when nothing is happening. We are working very hard and if the Honourable Member wants to engage with me, sit down and we go in detail and I can show him what we are doing to solve this issue, because it is a big issue, it is a big issue. I agree with him. I share his sentiments and we have to deal with it

and not because we must just answer. No, we must deal with it because it also impacts on the quality of education, but the Member must also have an appreciation that we are dealing with a complex issue that also requires additional resources. That is why I cannot just pronounce without confirming these resources, so, we definitely are going to work very hard in making sure that we resolve this issue. Thank you.

CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you so much, Honourable MEC. [Interjections] Moving- moving right along- [interjection] Honourable- [interjection] Who is that now? [Interjections]

Thank you, thank you. Back to normality, Honourable Members. Honourable Dos Santos, you may ask your question to Honourable MEC Maile, please. Thank you so much.

Mr DOS SANTOS: Thank you very much, Chair of Chairs. To the MEC, Lebogang Maile. [*Question 4.ED037*]

> *"With regards to allegations of misconduct, financial irregularities and maladministration at Franklin D Roosevelt Primary School, could the MEC please indicate:*
>
> *(i) on what date did the department first become aware of allegations against the principal, including financial irregularities, the sale of posts, extortion and intimidation;*
>
> *(ii) what action was taken against the principal, including dismissal and reinstatement, including action that was taken against officials responsible for failing to submit the required documents to the Education Labour Relations Council;*
>
> *(iii) has the department investigated allegations of misconduct and financial irregularities at the school, including the sale of posts, including the current status of the investigation;*