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Registered S18A(1) Public Benefit Organisation (930027221)

Directors: Prof Mary Metcalfe, Prof Crain Soudien, Zackie Achmat, Nathan Geffen, Tsedi Dipholo, Alan Velcich, Doron Isaacs

14 November 2008

Mr Archie Lewis

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Per Fax and Post

Follow-up from Public Meeting re Luhlaza Broken Windows – Desmond Tutu Hall – 13 Nov 2008

Dear Mr Lewis,

Thank you for attending the Public Meeting organised by Equal Education, held at Desmond Tutu Hall on 13 Nov 2008. Thank you for explaining at the meeting the response the WCED is planning to the situation at Luhlaza.

The following is our understanding of what you said:

1. The WCED is committed to fix all the broken windows at Luhlaza by, at the latest, the first week of school in 2009.
2. A decision is still to be made whether:
 - a. The windows will be fixed now and covered with stone guards.
 - b. The windows will be fixed now and protected by a security guard in the holidays.
 - c. The windows will be fixed in the first 10 days of January before school opens.
3. The WCED is committed to fix the fence at Luhlaza.
4. A total of R671,000.00 will be spent at the school over a period of two financial years. The first of these financial years ends on 31 March 2009. The second of these ends on 31 March 2010.
5. A meeting was held on 10 Nov 2008 involving various members of the WCED and Luhlaza School to decide on a course of action.
6. A second meeting of this nature will be held soon. Representatives of Equal Education will be invited to attend that meeting.

If you differ with any of the above, please let us know.

We have the following questions and comments arising out of what you reported last night:

1. In our view the windows should be fixed now, rather than waiting for January. There will be many holiday periods in the future through which the windows will need to survive anyway, so



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rather fix them now and protect them with stone-guards or a security guard. A security guard may be needed anyway because of the lack of fence and because there are computers and other equipment at the school. Either way, we'd like a final answer in regard to when the WCED intends fixing the windows.

2. We are extremely pleased that the WCED intends allocating the large amount of R671,000.00 to repairs at the school. We would like to see a breakdown/budget of this R671,000.00. We would also like a timeline for when the spending will take place.
3. Equal Education would like to accept your offer to attend the next meeting of stakeholders to discuss the repairs at Luhlaza School. Please notify us of the date and venue.

We also noted that you called on learners and Equal Education to deal with issues like pride, ownership of the school and attitude. You said you want these to be dealt with in a "parallel process" with fixing the broken windows. We agree that the things you raise are important and we are committed to addressing them. We would just point out that the work already done by learners in organising meetings, collecting petitions, writing articles and collecting broken glass are examples of those exact things which you are asking for. We will continue to work hard to improve the physical environment of schools and the commitment of all those involved with schools.

We look forward to your response to the questions we have raised. If you'd like to meet to discuss any of these questions, we would be happy to do that.

Thank you once again for attending and for responding to the needs of the Khayelitsha community.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Doron Isaacs in black ink.

Doron Isaacs
Coordinator

Handwritten signature of Simthembile Sitsha in black ink.

Simthembile Sitsha
Spokesperson

cc. MEC Yusuf Gabru
Mr Melvyn Caroline, Director: Metro East Education District