



Province of the
EASTERN CAPE
EDUCATION

Building Blocks for Growth

MEDIA BREAKFAST PRESENTATION

BY

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1. PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Introduction
- LAIS
- School Infrastructure
- School Nutrition
- Learning & Teaching Support Material
- Scholar Transport
- School Furniture
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Cost Pressures



2. INTRODUCTION

The Department of Education priorities for this financial year have been clearly articulated by the Hon Premier in his Maiden speech; in which he has clearly highlighted the following areas for particular emphasis:

- Learner & Teacher Support Materials (textbooks, reading packs, teacher kits, and maths and science kits.)
- Schools Nutrition (especially monitoring of feeding and transactions at school and district levels)
- School Infrastructure

Furthermore, anyone familiar with the Education Scene knows that the above are most support functions to the core business of the Department



3. INTRODUCTION (cont...)

In that regard, it is also equally important that we place emphasis on the following areas, that essentially address our core mandate:

- Appointment of Teachers and Lifting of their Morale
- Addressing inequities in the provision of both the professional and non-professional staff at school level.
- Introducing Accountability Systems and Monitoring of School Performance
- Creating a conducive Environment for Teaching and Learning with special emphasis on:
 - Dealing with School Infrastructure Challenges (Eradication of mud structures, disaster schools, school refurbishment, water and sanitation, fencing)
 - Improving delivery of the school nutrition programme
 - Ensuring efficient delivery of learner support materials
 - Inculcating efficient running of scholar transport programme
 - Delivery of school furniture to all needy schools
 - Improving efficiencies in transferring monies to no fee schools



4. LEARNER ATTAINMENT IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY (LAIS)

For the Department all the latter areas are encapsulated in our Learner Improvement Strategy. (SG will dwell on some of the finer points of this initiative, I will lift two from the following:

- Management and Administration:
 - Intensive training of school Principals for them to comply with basic policy imperatives and requirements for basic school functionality
- School Governance issues:
 - Intensive training of School Governing Bodies (SGBs), and advocacy for SGB elections



5. INFRASTRUCTURE

The key objectives of the infrastructure recovery plan are to:

- Improve spending of the allocated budget
- Speed up service delivery
- Address bottlenecks in the service delivery model
- Restore public confidence
- Improve the teaching and learning conditions in schools
- Alleviate the shortage of office space
- Build internal capacity in the infrastructure programme
- Enhance district office and local community involvement



6. TARGETS TO THE END OF MARCH 2009

- Eradicate 50 schools with mud structures
- Emergency repairs to 115 disaster schools
- Emergency classrooms to 45 schools
- Complete 37 projects from the previous years
- Fencing to improve security at 200 schools
- Maintain pit latrines in 250 schools
- Maintenance to 200 schools with solar systems
- Minor repairs to section 20 & 21 schools
- 100 new ECD centres to quintile 1 schools
- Alleviate shortage of office space @ Head Office
- Mobile offices to 04 district offices
- Urgent repairs in FET colleges & special schools



7. FUNDING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE INTERVENTION PLAN

- The total available Infrastructure budget for 2008/09 is R1,027, 931, 000 billion



8. SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME (SNP)

The key objectives of this programme are:

- Improve the efficiency of the SNP implementation such that 1,376,617 learners in 5 308 identified schools get good quality meals on identified days
- Construction of kitchens of 230 schools
- Roll out the implementation of the new SNP cooked menu model to identified 230 pilot schools benefiting 1 041 644 learners



9. CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS FOR SNP DELIVERY

- Solicit additional SNP funding for the period Jan 2009 to March 2009
- Ensure efficient supply of commodities for cooked meals
- Ensure effective contract management for SNP service providers
- Ensure effective, efficient and timeous payment systems and procedures
- Work in partnership with the Department of Health to monitor the quality of the food
- Strengthen the monitoring of SNP at school level



10. CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS FOR SNP DELIVERY cont...

- Partnership with Department of Agriculture on food production gardens
- Guidance by Provincial Treasury on the development of the procurement strategy for schools within the compliance context
- Partnership with the Department of Social Development on poverty alleviation mechanisms for orphans.
- Partnership with the Department of Economic Development to build capacity of SNP Service Providers



11. FUNDING FOR SNP

- The total available SNP budget for 2008/09 is made up of R339 million and R54 million from conditional grant and equitable share respectively.



12. LEARNER TEACHER SUPPORT MATERIAL (LTSM)

DEPARTMENTAL PLAN:

The key objectives for this LTSM program is to ensure the delivery of textbooks and stationery to schools in prioritised grades (all grade 12, top up for grades R, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,6,8,9 and 11)



13. REQUIRED ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR LTSM INTERVENTION PLAN

- The total current budget allocation for books is R476 million and R62 million for stationery.
- An additional **R96,9 million** is needed for the following priority LTSM needs:
 - Prescribed books for grade 12 (**R32,7 million**)
 - Full stationery requirements for all grades (**R48 million**)
 - Science kits for 1 400 schools for **R 16,2 million**



14. SCHOOL FURNITURE

The key objectives for the programme is to ensure the following:

- To provide every learner with a desk and chair to be taught, learn and succeed in a conducive environment.
- To spend the current allocated budget of R40 million
- To provide both educators and learners with furniture



15. CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

- The finalization of the pending court case
- Increasing the financial delegations to Districts, and capacity.
- Adding more to the 3 FET colleges currently refurbishing school furniture
- Provision of additional budget
- The School Furniture budget for 2008/09 is R 40 million





16. INCREASED STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Involvement of education stakeholders is a crucial aspect in dealing with myriad of challenges
- Advisory Council being set up to bring in external expertise to advise MEC
- District Education Forums are being revived to assist with monitoring at the points of service delivery



17. AUDIT INTERVENTION PLAN (AIP)

The key objectives of the AIP are to:

- Address the financial management performance of the Department of Education as consistently indicated by the Auditor-General's findings



18. CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS cont..

- Establishment of the A-G Audit team to manage audit process at 3 levels.
- Training of Departmental staff at Head Office, District and School Level
- Strengthening of Performance Management Systems and effective Risk Management
- Redefinition of process controls and realignment of delegations at Head Office, District and School Level
- Redesign and re-engineering of processes
- Monitor the implementation of policies and procedures
- Availability of technical support by financial experts and process re-engineers
- Effective and Efficient Management and accountability by Senior Management at Head Office, District and School Level.



19. COST PRESSURE ALLEVIATION

In an attempt to solicit some of the required funds in-house the Department embarked on the following exercise:

Reviewed detailed expenditure reports as from the 19 August 2008 in respect of Goods and Services per programme per Standard Chart of Account (SCOA) item with the intention of identifying potential savings to off-set cost pressures.

During the review non core business expenditure trends were targeted. Expenditure such as travelling and accommodation, catering, training, venues & facilities, entertainment etc. was targeted.

Certain items identified by the finance team could not be considered for top slicing as they contribute directly to the core business or have been gazetted.



20. CONCLUSION

The successful implementation of the Department's endeavors requires commitment and accountability of DoE Senior Managers to manage and guide Staff.

Prioritizing effective utilization of management and staff time, amidst other competing priorities, Provincially and Nationally is one of the key success factors.

Optimizing efficiencies on the utilization of the existing budget for each programme outlined herein is critical for the success of this turn-around plan implementation, over and above the availability of additional resources.





THANK YOU.



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