CIRCULAR FOR FORMAL EDUCATION: FORM. ED. 08/2015

RE: COORDINATION OF INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS OF PEOPLE ADDRESSING SCHOOLS ON VARIOUS ISSUES

It is with great concern that the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture observed the trends of uncontrolled and uncoordinated access of individuals and groups on school premises in Namibia under the pretext of motivational talks to the learners and teachers. It should be noted that schools are sensitive and secure areas where the Ministry has a critical role of responsibility for learners under the term “locus in parentis”.

The Ministry takes the safety and security of all children as paramount and thus they should be safeguarded at all times by all those entrusted with authority at the schools.

In order to combat and control such activities which might have negative effects on the holistic development of the child, the Ministry is left with no option, but to introduce stringent control...
measures to control and coordinate the access of outside people to schools as well as the content of speeches under the pretext of motivational talks and addresses at Government schools.

Though we uphold that education is a collective responsibility that does not mean that individuals or a group must frequently enter school grounds for various reasons without obtaining permission from the Ministry.

In the good spirit of collaboration and collective responsibility, outside individuals and or external stakeholders may approach school authorities to have motivational talks with learners in government schools under the following conditions which must strictly adhered to:

- Submission of formal written requests, at least four (4) weeks before the date for the intended activity, to the relevant Director of Education, Arts and Culture. The Regional Director of Education, Arts and Culture in consultation with the Chief Regional Officer should provide a written approval to the applicant, copied to the Permanent secretary of Education, Arts and Culture.

- That no outside person/s shall be allowed to access any government school to address learners or staff unless proper permission has been granted by the Chief Regional Officer of the respective region and shall be deemed to be in contravention of this directive if doing so without proper authorization.

- Action shall be taken against any person allowing such individuals or organizations to have motivational talks without proper approval as spelled out above.

This is done in the spirit of safeguarding the children who are put under the due care of the school authorities at the government schools.

This directive must be implemented with immediate effect and Directors of Education, Arts and Culture must ensure that the information is shared with the larger society/communities at all levels. Equally, all available platforms within the regions should play a critical role in the sharing of this directive.

Yours sincerely,

SANET L. STEENKAMP
PERMANENT SECRETARY

2015-10-13

DATE

13/10/15
Previous Circular:

NUMBER: CIRCULAR: FORM. ED. 07/2015

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION OF A SECONDARY SCHOOL GRANT IN 2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

ADDRESSEES: HONOURABLE MINISTER
HONOURABLE DEPUTY MINISTER
CHIEF REGIONAL OFFICERS
DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARIES
REGIONAL DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE
DIRECTORS: NIED, DNEA, PQA, PAD, GS, DAE & NAMCOL
DEPUTY DIRECTORS
INSPECTORS OF EDUCATION
EDUCATION OFFICERS AND SCHOOL COUNSELORS
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
SCHOOL BOARDS
NANTU AND NANSO
PRO