

MEDIA RELEASE: PSA calls for investigation into conduct of Principal of uMlazi Comprehensive Technical High School in KwaZulu-Natal

DATE: 24 March 2021

EMBARGO: None

ENQUIRIES: communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) has called on the KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) MEC of Education and the Head of Department of Basic Education to immediately place the Principal of uMlazi Comprehensive Technical High School on special leave owing to alleged unfair labour practices, unfair dismissals, victimisation and maladministration.

The PSA, representing more than 45 000 public-sector employees in KZN, also called on the Department to urgently appoint a team to investigate the poor management of the school by the Principal, Mr NE Shandu. This comes amidst a host of allegations, including abuse of authority, unilaterally changing employees' service conditions, unfairly dismissing employees, favouritism, irregular appointments, intimidation of educators and non-teaching staff, and forcing non-teaching to work on their off days without remuneration. There are further allegations of conducting Post Provisioning Norm without complying with HRM Circular No 61 of 2020, not addressing employees' grievances, undermining supervisors, non-compliance with COVID-19 protocols and demanding payment from learners seeking placement at the school.

The PSA calls on the leadership of the Department to protect employees' constitutional right to fair labour practices as embodied in section 23 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa. In addition, the PSA advises the Department to provide all Principals with proper training to enhance their management skills to prevent maladministration, abuse of power and victimisation.

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