

MEDIA RELEASE **PSA condemns learning conditions at HS Phillips Secondary School in Limpopo**

DATE 21 August 2024

EMBARGO None

ENQUIRIES communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) is shocked and dismayed about the fact that there are schools in Limpopo, including HS Phillips Secondary School, that are operating without proper classrooms.

The situation is unacceptable and highlights a severe neglect of learners' educational needs. HS Phillips Secondary School, for example, is forced to conduct some classes under a tree whilst waiting for the Limpopo Department of Education to construct new classrooms. This is a clear violation of learners' rights to a safe and conducive learning environment as current conditions expose them and educators to the elements, including extreme cold during winter and intense heat during summer. Such exposure not only hampers the education process, but also poses significant health risks.

The PSA urges the Department to expedite the construction of new classrooms provide learners and educators with proper educational facilities. The PSA further calls on the Premier of Limpopo to as a priority ensure that all schools in the Limpopo have proper classrooms. Immediate action is needed to address this dire situation and prevent further disruption of the education. In the interim, additional mobile classrooms to accommodate all learners must be provided. Repairs and maintenance on existing damaged classrooms to make them save for use, must be accelerated.

The PSA stands in solidarity with the affected learners and educators and will continue to advocate for their right to quality education and safe learning environments.

END