

MEDIA RELEASE **PSA shocked by reckless use of taxpayers' money by North West Department of Education**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is shocked by the decision of the Dr Kenneth Kaunda Education District to allocate more than R450 000 to a contractor to erect a small security building at Promosa High School in Potchefstroom in North West.

This School is in dire need of more classrooms in line with COVID-19 regulations for the protection of learners and Educators. This building, which is equipped with electricity, a toilet, and a basin, was erected at the entrance to the school and offers shelter to a security guard. After the PSA investigated the matter, it was discovered that, to date, only the cottage is in place, but no security guard had been appointed. It is alleged that the Education Department will outsource security.

The need for security should be more important than simply an expensive guardhouse because the School has been robbed several times. The School was broken into last year and looted. The Administrative building and the Principal's office were also targeted. Vandals also regularly cut holes in the School's fence.

The PSA is concerned about the use of state funds without prioritising the procurement of equipment such as sanitisers, masks, and the fumigation of offices and classrooms to ensure that staff and learners are protected. These issues will be taken up with the MEC for North-West Education on an urgent basis.

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