

**MEDIA RELEASE**                      **Teachers' Day 2021: PSA calls for support to enhance teaching and learning**

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The unequal distribution of resources between low-and high-income schools, lack of technical skills training and inadequate support for teachers in rural areas are some of the continued challenges facing South African Educators on the eve of Teachers' Day in 2021.

The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned about these challenges, which are exacerbated by the shortage of thousands of qualified Educators across the country and the loss of more than 1 600 Educators who succumbed to COVID-19.

The PSA is further extremely concerned about the profession's failure to attract sufficient young people to pursue a professional career in teaching. This situation is caused by various factors, including the fact that teaching as a career is not regarded as a means out of poverty. In addition, South African educators are expected to render services under uncondusive and even unsafe conditions. They are further faced with the management of learners affected by a range of societal ills. These issues are constantly raised but very little is done by government to improve the state of schooling.

On Teachers' Day, the PSA as a representative Union of thousands of Educators, calls on all stakeholders including communities, learners, and parents, to play an active role in supporting teaching and learning in South African schools. The PSA remains committed to protecting the rights and interests of Educators and will continue its active interventions to ensure safe and healthy teaching and learning environments in the interest of a better future for Educators and learners.

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