

Non-compliance with COVID-19 Regulations - Maokeng Primary School

The PSA has the responsibility to ensure that employers comply with section 8 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)* to provide a workplace that is safe and without risk to employees. It must be noted that the scope of the *OHSA* extends to non-employees as long as they are either at the workplace or can be affected by activities of the worker. The much-anticipated COVID-19 third wave calls for vigilant observation of protocols and the PSA will not stand and watch where the lives of employees and learners are in danger.

The PSA conducted an inspection at Maokeng Primary School in Waterberg District upon noticing the continued disregard of COVID-19 protocols and found some classes did not have sanitisers. The staff room has been provided with a sanitiser that is suspected of being low quality. Learners are allowed to share one cup to drink water in their classes. Some of these issues were raised during meetings but were not addressed by the employer. Subsequently, the PSA wrote a letter to the School Principal and Compliance Officer to request compliance with COVID-19 protocols within 24 hours, failing which the PSA will escalate the matter to the Department of Employment and Labour and Circuit Management.

Employees who want to join the PSA and members with challenges can contact the following persons: ELRC Provincial Secretary: Matlala - 060 530 7869 / bophelobyannete@gmail.com an/or the Deputy Secretary - Ditsele on 083 698 8758 / ditselemating@gmail.com. Alternatively, members can contact the PSA's Organising/Marketing Officers: Paulina Moloto on 082 880 8957 / Paulina.moloto@psa.co.za or Lawrence Muvhango on 082 880 8995 / lawrence.muvhango@psa.co.za or call the PSA Provincial Office on (015) 295 0500. Members will be updated on developments.

GENERAL MANAGER