



## **basic education**

Department:  
Basic Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**TO: HEADS OF DEPARTMENT  
HEADS OF EXAMINATIONS  
HEADS OF CURRICULUM  
TEACHER UNIONS  
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY ASSOCIATIONS  
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS (NAISA)  
UMALUSI  
UNIVERSITIES SOUTH AFRICA (USAf)  
DISTRICT DIRECTORS  
PRINCIPALS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

### **CIRCULAR E 30 OF 2020**

#### **REWRITE OF MATHEMATICS PAPER 2 AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE PAPER 2 – NOVEMBER 2020 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE/SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION.**

1. The Minister of Basic Education, Ms Angie Motshekga, has announced on Friday, 4 December 2020, the rewrite of Mathematics Paper 2 and Physical Science Paper 2, which were previously written as part of the 2020 National Senior Certificate (NSC)/Senior Certificate (SC) examination.
2. This decision was taken following an investigation by the Department of Basic Education that confirmed that both these papers were accessed by a number of learners prior to the writing of the examination.
3. An important element of any examination, particularly the Senior Certificate and the National Senior Certificate examination, which is the culmination of twelve years of schooling, is the credibility and integrity of the examination.

4. Any prior access to the examination, irrespective of the extent of the access or the spread of the leakage, implies that the credibility of the examination has been compromised.
5. Given that the leaked question paper was transmitted via WhatsApp and other social media platforms, it is impossible to accurately identify learners that had access to the question paper, prior to writing.
6. Hence the Department is compelled to take the decision to have both the compromised question papers rewritten by all candidates that registered for both the 2020 May/June examination and the 2020 October/November examination.
7. This is regrettable but is the only solution to restoring the integrity and credibility of the NSC and SC examination in both these question papers and to ensure that the examination is declared as being free of any systemic irregularity by Umalusi.
8. The dates and times for the rewrite of both these question papers are as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Subject/Paper</b>
15 December 2020 (Tuesday)	14:00 – 17:00	Mathematics Paper 2
17 December 2020 (Thursday)	09:00 – 12:00	Physical Science Paper 2

9. In addition to the rewrite of these two question papers, a small number of candidates that experienced technical problems during the writing of Computer Applications Technology (CAT) Paper 1, and Information Technology (IT) Paper 1, will also be afforded an opportunity to rewrite these two question papers. These candidates will be informed by the Provincial Education Department, if they are expected to rewrite either CAT or IT. The rewrite of CAT and IT, is in no way related to the leakage of the Mathematics Paper 2 and Physical Science Paper 2.
10. Circular E26 of 2020 listed the date of 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 as the date for the rewrite of CAT and IT. The dates for the **rewrite of CAT and IT has been changed** as follows:

Date	Time	Subject/Paper
17 December 2020 (Thursday)	14:00 – 17:00	(a) Computer Applications Technology (CAT) (b) Information Technology (IT)

11. Please note that the current Admission letter in the possession of candidates will still be valid for admission to the examination centre for the re-writing of these question papers.
12. Candidates that do not pitch to write the examination will be regarded as absent and will be issued with an Incomplete Result.
13. The support and understanding of parents and learners in this very difficult decision is greatly appreciated.
14. All queries regarding the rewrite of these papers should be directed to the Chief Director: National Assessment and Public Examinations, Dr R R Poliah, on 012 – 357 3900 or 082 878 5696 or email: [Poliah.R@dbe.gov.za](mailto:Poliah.R@dbe.gov.za).



**MR HM MWELI**

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**DATE: 07 DECEMBER 2020**