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Enquiries: T Cloete

Cape Teaching and Leadership Minute: 0006/2021

To: Chief Directors, Directors (Head Office and district offices), Circuit Managers, Heads: Curriculum Support, Subject Advisers, Specialised Learner and Educator Support Staff, Principals and Chairpersons of governing bodies at public schools

**Subject: Celebrating International School Library Month (ISLM)**

1. During October 2021 school libraries in South Africa and across the world will celebrate and promote library and information services at schools.
2. In celebration of ISLM 2021, the Western Cape Education Minister has decided to involve all Western Cape Education Department (WCED) schools, teachers and learners. Learners will have the opportunity to express their feelings and share their experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic, and at the same time win resources for their school library.
3. The Education Library and Information Services (EDULIS), in collaboration with the Education Minister's Office, will afford six WCED schools the opportunity to win school library resources to the value of R150 000.
4. The breakup will be as follows:
  - Three secondary schools will receive R25 000 each for winning entries in English, Afrikaans and Xhosa, and
  - Three primary schools will receive R25 000 each for winning entries in English, Afrikaans and Xhosa.
5. The theme of the competition is "My COVID-19 Journey", in recognition of the impact that COVID-19 has had on WCED learners, their families and friends, and their schools. The competition provides a specific opportunity for learners to express themselves through poetry, with the added benefit of healing mental and emotional trauma through writing, as well as to reflect on the value of library material (books/e-resources).

6. All WCED schools are encouraged to enter the competition electronically. The following questions should guide the learners' poems:

- **How do you feel about the COVID-19 pandemic?**
- **How has it affected you and your school?**
- **How has it affected your family and friends?**
- **How do we move forward from here and how can your school library help?**

7. Teachers will have to collate the poems and mail one entry per school to [alison.mentor@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:alison.mentor@westerncape.gov.za).

8. The closing date for the competition is **Tuesday, 30 November 2021** and the winners will be notified telephonically or via email.

9. The winning schools will be announced, and the prize handover will take place on a date determined by the WCED.

10. For enquiries about the competition and for terms and conditions, please contact Timothy Cloete at [timothy.cloete@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:timothy.cloete@westerncape.gov.za).

11. The following WCED district officials may be contacted regarding school library services:

Janine Ontong	School Library Adviser, Cape Winelands District	Tel. no. 023 348 4657
Lorné Erasmus	School Library Service Officer, Overberg District	Tel. no. 028 214 7386
Tirzah Arendse	School Library Service Officer, Eden and Central Karoo District	Tel. no. 044 803 8377
Vernon Koen	School Library Service Officer, Metro East District	Tel. no. 021 900 7049
Sinetemba Mdunyelwa	School Library Service Officer, West Coast District	Tel. no. 021 860 1200

12. Principals are requested to bring the content of this minute to the attention of all concerned.

**SIGNED:** H MAHOMED

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT**

**DATE:** 2021-11-03