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Curriculum GET Minute: 0010/2024

To: Deputy Directors-General, Heads: Curriculum Support, Heads: Management and Governance, Circuit Managers, Deputy Chief Education Specialists, Intermediate Phase/GET Coordinators, Intermediate Phase Subject Advisers, and Principals of all ordinary public schools offering Grades R–7

Subject: Implementation of Mother Tongue-based Bilingual Education (MTbBE) in 2025

1. The Department of Basic Education's (DBE) Circular 18/2024, dated 16 October 2024 (Annexure A), supports the use of trans-languaging in teaching and learning to empower learners through their home languages (mother tongue). The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) is pleased to announce the introduction of MTbBE in the Western Cape. The aim is to improve educational outcomes while fostering respect for learners' linguistic and cultural identities.
2. **Implications of MTbBE implementation**
The introduction of MTbBE in Afrikaans, English, and Xhosa for primary schools has several benefits. It is designed to enhance educational outcomes, promote cultural identity and strengthen social cohesion among learners.
3. **Understanding MTbBE**
For a clearer understanding of MTbBE, please consult attached Annexure B, which provides a detailed explanation of the concept.
4. **Roles and responsibilities**
Annexure C outlines the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation of MTbBE.
5. **Advocacy and awareness**
To support the rollout of MTbBE, an advocacy process will begin in early 2025. This will include:
 - Workshops and training: Informational sessions for stakeholders on MTbBE's benefits.
 - Community engagement: Involving parents and community leaders to build support.

- Collaboration: Partnering with local organisations and nongovernmental organisations to raise awareness and gather feedback.

6. **Formal launch**

The WCED will officially launch MTbBE during Term 1 of 2025. Details about the event, including the date and venue, will be shared soon.

7. **Survey and certification**

We kindly request that principals, who have NOT yet completed the surveys, complete the required survey by the no later than 06 December 2024 and certify the accuracy of the information provided. The DBE links to be used are:

7.1 **Educators**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdx5XloEklymkbIfQtRonkEN2i8moLRMdtTfEq_NwKYvfk6ew/viewform?usp=sharing

7.2 **Principals**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUdRTjguY7bBqVEFn7y0DzcZFWnoUsMX7EKWtWk6VeatJ6AA/viewform?usp=sharing>

8. **Conclusion**

The success of MTbBE depends on the collective commitment of all stakeholders. The WCED is dedicated to providing the necessary resources and support to ensure its effective implementation. Further details about training and resources will be communicated in due course. For any questions or additional information, please contact your district office.

9. Thank you for your cooperation as we work together to empower learners through language.
10. Principals are requested to bring the content of this minute to the attention of all stakeholders.

SIGNED: BJ LORISTON

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT

DATE: 2024-12-10