



21 Digtebij Crescent,
Mabille Park,
Kuilsriver 7580
☎: 021 906 6980
Email: glendadf@gmail.com

A REGISTERED NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION NO: 043-617-NPO

NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS
CONVERSION TO A PRIMARY SCHOOL
AND
CLOSURE OF GRADES 8 AND 9

IN JANUARY 2018

Dear Parent/s

The Steering Committee members of the school have agreed, after consideration of all the evidence provided to convert to a primary school only (*i.e. Grades R to 7*) with effect from the **1st January 2018**

This matter was open for discussion at an extraordinary meeting held on Wednesday 22nd February 2017. No objections was raised to the conversion by the attending parents of learners in grades 7, 8 and 9

This decision was based upon the following considerations;

- 1) The low number of learners in grade eight and (especially) grade nine
- 2) The high number of learners who are transferred out of the school on completion of their grade seven school year, to commence high school at other local schools in Kuilsriver and surrounding areas
- 3) The high and increasing cost of financial cross-subsidization of learners in grades eight and nine
- 4) The desire of parents for learner participation in sporting activities not offered in part or total by this school
- 5) Instructions from the school's Public Officer regarding the viability of offering grades eight and nine at current learner numbers which would continue to negatively influence the finances of the school
- 6) The rising number of parents not paying school fees as well as parents paying late and/or not at the agreed monthly tariff as per the Contract of Tuition
- 7) Our non- market related school fees relative to comparative Public and Private schools in Kuilsriver and surrounding areas
- 8) The many learners who are only enrolled from grade 8 (from other primary schools) and who have not progressed through our system

Furthermore, the City Council have (now) placed an additional restriction on the number of learners which may be accommodated on the premises as a condition of approval of the school development project which will commence in the first quarter of 2017

The committee had to consider the school's financial viability as well as diminishing learner numbers in order to achieve a unanimous decision on this matter.

To address this situation, the following options were considered;

- a) Increase the school fees in line with the market, to say R3000.00 (*Three Thousand Rand per month*) immediately and then charge future increases at or above annual inflation figures to correct possible negative returns

Or

- b) Pass inflated future increases per annum on the current base figure of R1300.00 (*One Thousand Three Hundred for 2017*) in order to align our school fees with other learning institutions in Kuilsriver and surrounding areas

And

- c) Close those grades where the monthly fee income does not cover the monthly operating expenses as is and has been the case for the past 5 (five) years for grades eight and nine

The final decision of the committee was to simultaneously adopt options (b) and (c) with effect from 1st January 2018

We are aware that this decision will come as a shock to some, but we need our parents to understand that the school cannot remain viable as long as the current situation persists

A further complication is the high number of parents not paying school fees (at all), or only paying after the fifteenth of each month, while some pay as and when they deem fit.

This, coupled with the cost of rising bad debt is putting a strain on the school's financial resources. Also bear in mind that the school carries a 20% loss on any amount referred to and successfully recovered through our debt collectors.

Bad debt, together with erratic payers and the high cost of recovery is negatively impacting our income while costs continue to escalate each year

Unless we immediately implement these corrective measures, the school will not be in a position meet the predetermined growth objectives which we set as a committee.

This will negatively affect our ability to deliver the standards required of the school as an accredited educational institution as determined by the Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education in South Africa (UMALUSI)

Yours Faithfully

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Pastor Stuart Farquhar
Senior Administrator

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Pastor Virgil Viljoen
Principal

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Pastor Bryan Higgins
Deputy Principal

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Lynette Farquhar
Administration

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Glenda Frost
Finances

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Gonda Viljoen
Marketing

.....
Leigh Rowbotham
Estate

3rd March 2017