

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY QUESTION 873

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 20-2006)

Mr S J Masango to ask the Minister of Education:

Whether any of the 13 public schools identified by her department (list attached) as having a zero matric pass rate in 2005 offered transport services to assist learners to get to school; if not, why not; if so, in each of the past five years up to and including 2005, what total subsidy was (a)(i) allocated and (ii) actually spent on transport services and (b) how many learners were assisted by this service?

1071E

REPLY:

In replying to this question, I need to make the following comments in order to clarify the current status of the schools referred to in the question.

(1) Ennerdale Christian Academy (GDE) was erroneously listed as a public school. It was, in fact, an independent school registered with the Gauteng Education Department. It has since been de-registered. I do not have any information in regard to this school.

(2) Learners at Sizathina Secondary School (KZN) wrote their first matric in 2005 and had their results withheld on suspicion of irregularities. The final result was a 100% pass for this school. Therefore, it falls outside the scope of the question.

(3) Learners at Inyonemhlophe Secondary School (KZN) also had their results withheld on suspicion of irregularities. Their final result was a 57% pass. This school therefore also falls outside the scope of the question.

(4) While Goodwood College in the Western Cape is captured on our database as a school with a zero pass rate, this rate does not accurately reflect its performance. In the calculation of school pass rates only candidates with six subjects or more are included. This school enrolled 84 learners in 2005 but not one registered for six subjects. This is because the school also offers N1 and N2 courses and students would therefore not complete all the school subjects in one year. Pass rates for the individual subjects are consistently high. Pass rates for school subjects are combined with those on the N courses and a separate certificate is issued, and is not reflected in ordinary Grade 12 results for the province. This school has therefore also been removed from the list of schools with a zero % pass rate.

(a)(i) Budget allocation

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005
Allocation	R88 256	R127 971	R217 330	R243 807

(a)(ii) Actual expenditure

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005
Expenditure	R88 256	R127 971	R217 330	R243 807

(b) Number of learners who benefited

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005
Learners	80	116	197	221

The KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo education departments did not provide for subsidised learner transport during the period in question. Therefore, learners from Mogalatshane-Mphahlele Secondary School (Limpopo), Joko, Lourdes, Singobile and Thokozwayo Secondary Schools (KwaZulu-Natal) were not provided with subsidized learner transport.

Until 2003 there was no subsidised learner transport all in the eastern part of the Eastern Cape (former Transkei). Therefore Jiba and Ntibane Secondary Schools were not be provided with subsidised learner transport. The process of identifying routes in these districts is currently underway. However, there are no learners who travel more that five kilometres attending these schools.

Until 2003 subsidised learner transport was provided for rural farm communities in the Eastern Cape. However, this arrangement excluded Sotinini Secondary School. Arrangements are being made to provide subsidised learner transport to all qualifying learners. A route, which includes Sotinini Secondary School, has been identified and the Department is finalising applications from learners.

Engelsedraai Combined School (Mpumalanga) has subsidised learner transport. It started in 2002.