

NATIONAL NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 238

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238. Ms S A Luthuli (KwaZulu-Natal: EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

Improving learner/teacher ratios

. : Whether, given the teacher shortages across public schools, any plans are in place to ensure that schools have sufficient numbers of teachers to attend to the high numbers of learners that have been enrolled; if not, why not; if so, (a) what plans and (b) what are the further relevant details?

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Response

All Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) allocated posts to schools for the 2022 school year in line with the available budgets. Shortages being observed at schools are as a result of vacancies that emanate from normal attrition or temporarily vacated positions due to various reasons including illness, accouchement, suspensions leave etc. as opposed to an inadequate or insufficient allocation. It is expected that all PEDs will fill all allocated educator posts regularly to ensure that there is a teacher in front of every class. There are therefore no specific plans other than to ensure that posts that become vacant are filled as they occur as part of the normal process of deployment of educators at schools. Furthermore, the Department will continue to monitor the filling of posts in all PEDs and provide support where necessary.