

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 1097.**

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**1097. . Ms N L Webster (BOSA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

Whether she intends ending the 30% pass mark for subjects and replacing it with 50% as a minimum pass; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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##### **Response**

The Minister is aware that the 30% pass mark has been raised as a concern from various quarters and is not oblivious to the importance of this matter.

Presently, there are no immediate plans to change the 30% pass mark and to replace it with a minimum pass mark of 50%.

Since assuming office in June 2024, the Minister has devoted time to fully understanding the challenges confronting the Basic Education sector, including consulting with provincial MECs, their management teams, and various stakeholders to gain first-hand information on the issues confronting provincial education departments.

Following this, the Minister plans to appoint an advisory council to inform the necessary reforms in the sector. This council will be able to look at how best we strengthen then curriculum; what interventions are needed and how best to benchmark our performance with international best practice. We remain committed to making evidence based policy interventions at all times. Therefore, she would require time and expert advice before any changes of this nature can be made.