



PRETORIA HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

949 Park Street Arcadia
✉ P/Bag X2 Hatfield 0028
S 25° 45,043' E 28° 13,643'
website: www.phsg.org.za

Tel: 012 430 7341
Fax: 012 342 1955
e-mail: info@phsg.org.za

1 September 2016

To Stakeholders of the PHSG Community

As everyone is aware, the school has over the last few days been a place of conflict due to unresolved issues that have now boiled over in a very public space and through social media.

We as the School Governing Body would like to extend our apologies to all those that have been harmed and impacted by the recent events and the concerns of the learners of our school. We acknowledge that we need to work together to rebuild the trust between the various members of the greater school family.

It has been clearly highlighted that there are unresolved issues that cause pain to many despite being 22 years into our young democracy. We have been made acutely aware that these issues need to be dealt with in an open and honest manner. It has become clear that there are issues of resentment that were not appreciated, or were not fully appreciated, and which are perhaps even now not yet fully understood. We must however learn to respect the views, different cultures and beliefs that are inherent to the diversity of our society.

We are committed to working with the MEC's investigation team to ensure that all allegations and concerns raised are properly dealt within the timeframe agreed. At the same time, we the SGB are intent on protecting the school and seeing to it that its reputation, and the solid foundation which it has always provided to its learners, is protected despite current events.

We would like to believe that at the end of the road to be travelled we will come out with a stronger community and in a space where all affected parties have the ability to freely raise their concerns and have their voices heard without having to take the steps that we have recently experienced.

We urge parents and learners to communicate with us going forward to raise issues of concern without fear of recrimination. In this process we believe we all need to acknowledge that there is a requirement for guidelines in terms of discipline to ensure that the quality of education is not compromised.

The SGB will, as per the MEC's recommendations, ask parents and learners for their input into the revision of the relevant section of the Code of Conduct in order to support the PHSG community as a whole.

Yours sincerely

**The School Governing Body
Pretoria High School for Girls**