



To: Education Officials, Principals, Teachers and Parents of EFAL Grade 7-9 learners

Topic: **Rebooting the system – Parental Involvement**

Message Objective(s):

- Develop a conducive school culture that promotes learning at home to recover from learning losses
- Improve learning outcomes and reach the goal of quality education
- Create volunteer opportunities to start e.g., Art and Culture Clubs, book clubs, minor repairs of furniture
- Work with SGBs to promote the wellbeing and effectiveness of the school community and thereby enhance learning and teaching

Message: Parental involvement positively impacts the academic achievement of learners, as well as facilitating better grades, regular school attendance, better social skills, improved behaviour, more positive attitudes towards school and completed homework assignments. The following are some ideas that could assist in ensuring rebooting of the education sector especially for schools in disadvantaged environments.

- Schools and SGBs could set up quick wins that will promote volunteer opportunities e.g., minor repair work of furniture, paint work, creation of Art and Culture Clubs, book clubs and a clean up campaign of the school.
- Schools can facilitate phase parent and teacher meetings e.g., Senior Phase Teacher Parent Meetings.
- Schools can ensure that learner profiles are developed, managed and kept up to date.
- Schools can develop functional homework policies and organise learner packs to be sent home for extended learning and consolidation.
- Parents meetings can be promoted by posting notices at shopping centres, local clinics or SASSA collection points.
- SMTs can plan visits to parents directly.
- SMTs in collaboration with SGBs can evaluate and analyse parental needs through surveys and questionnaires.
- Schools can encourage teachers to use social media to start conversations with parents e.g., send homework, steps for writing a narrative essay and possibly assigned pages for independent reading.
- Schools can motivate teachers to set up WhatsApp groups with parents so that expectations are shared. WhatsApp groups could also provide a platform for frequently asked questions and assigned tasks and projects.

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Reference: <https://nect.org.za/materials/recovery-atps-trackers>

