



To: **District Directors, Circuit Managers and Principals**

Topic: **Building back better the education system. (SBST)**

Message Objective(s): Build structures of **CSTL implementation in schools as a way of building back better institutions of learning.**

Message: Build effective School Based Support Teams to support the building back efforts.

Part of building back for future pandemics or other national disasters should involve strengthening the School Based Support Teams to effectively support learning for all in schools. As schools strive to recover from the pandemic they tend to concentrate on academic subjects and forgetting or have insufficient time to deal with implantation of the CSTL framework. Policy directs that all public schools must have a structure called School Based Support Teams(SBST) This structure needs to be strengthened by training the members on their roles and responsibilities.

The following are the roles of the SBST:

- i) Determine the support needs of learners and teachers
- ii) Coordination of support provision within the framework of Screening, Identification, Assessment AND Support Policy (SIAS)
- iii) Implementation of the Education White Paper 6 which states that all educational systems should be transformed to accommodate all learners in the main stream schools
- iv) Support all learners experiencing learning barriers by recommending different classroom based interventions for those struggling
- v) Provide psychosocial support to learners in distress.
- vi) Drawing upon additional resources from within and outside the school to address internal challenges.

Effective SBSTs will in schools assist the education system build back better strategy by building structures that will withstand any future disruptions.

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References: (Psychosocial Support: A Model for South African Schools (2021))