



Dear Parents, Learners and Staff

As Governing Body in these uncertain times we would like to share the following with you: At this stage we have no officially announced dates of when schools will re-open and learners will be allowed to return to school. In truth, there are new court applications daily with just one goal in mind and that is to prevent schools from opening. We, therefore, experience exactly the same frustrations as you do.

However, what is cause for concern is the fact that so many negative rumours and speculation are shared on social media. There are even calls to participate in petitions. As the Governing Body of Swartland High School we urgently ask that you abstain from participating in the aforementioned activities. In our opinion it is of utmost importance for the parent body to behave responsibly during this uncertain time and to do everything in their power to save this academic year for our children. Our hearts go out to our children, especially the matriculants, who have to sacrifice so much at this stage. Nevertheless, we urge you to support and motivate your children in a positive way and to lead by example. We have to meet these challenging circumstances head on and manage them to the best of our ability. As proud Rockies with Rockie Values as guideline we can withstand and overcome the challenges of the current situation.

The only certainty we have at this stage is the proposal by the Minister of Basic Education to Parliament that entails the following:

- that school management teams return to schools on 11 May 2020 to make preparations so that
- the rest of the school's staff can return on 18 May 2020 so that they can put preparations in place for
- grade 12 learners to return to school on 1 June 2020.

The assurance was further given that schools will not re-open before they all adhere to the necessary health requirements. However, no specific guidelines were given as to what these health requirements are. Keep in mind, though, that none of these proposals are binding, because Parliament has not reacted yet. We are thus waiting tensely for Parliament to react so that these uncertainties can be eliminated.

In the meantime the staff of Swartland High School is working extremely hard behind the scenes to ensure that the learners do not fall behind with curriculum content. We would, therefore, also like to use this opportunity to state our appreciation for Mr Schoonraad and his team.

The school has assembled a Virus Committee that has been busy since the lockdown period to put the necessary safety and health regulations in place so that the school can be ready when learners return to school. We solemnly promise that Swartland High School will do everything in its power to ensure that your children return to a safe and healthy environment when it is expected of them to return to school according to the guidelines of national legislation and the Basic Education Act.



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In the interim we urge you to make sure that your child access his/her school work and stay up to date. Also see to it that the assignments that must be sent to school are completed and sent on the due dates. You can rest assured and trust the judgement of the School Management Team. They are skilled and in control of the situation.

Best wishes to each of you

Proud Rockie Regards

The Governing Body
Swartland High School