



FeedOurKids.



Feed Our Kids



feedourkidsorg



Feed Our Kids Org

Media Statement

Feed Our Kids reject attempts to save teachers jobs in expense of our children's livelihoods

The Feed Our Kids Movement rejects the position of the Gauteng's Education MEC Matome Chiloane as he vowed to keep the jobs of about 3,400 teachers across the province by slashing various educational programmes amid a R4.5 billion budget deficit.

We strongly reject his ill-informed decision to slashing educational programmes, school transportation, school nutrition, learning and teaching support materials (LTSM) and others. Majority of Black children are poor and depend on school feeding schemes for survival, his attempt as an alternative solution is misinformed and will cause harm to our children.

He said they had to find alternative ways to secure school teachers posts, as the department is experiencing a budget deficit of R4.5 billion. However, they are unlike a reported stance taken by the Western Cape Department of Education that they would not be filling 2,400 teacher posts, Chiloane said the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) had to come up with alternative solutions to save public school teachers job cuts, due to the increasing number of learners in the schools across the province.

Both approaches from Gauteng and Western Cape departments of education are irrational. The most viable solution is to allow National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) to be transformed and reimplemented as centralised model. This model will take off burdens from provincial departments to national department.

We are calling on the MEC Chiloane to leave our children's livelihoods alone. The right thing to do is to rally behind the proposition by Basic Education nationally to centralise the system and allow government to oversee NSNP from national department. As Feed Our Kids, we believe we are in this situation to do corruption with decentralised system because there are too many tenders for feeding schemes across all provinces. This makes it difficult for allocation of education budgets.

In many parts of the country, many children go to school on the basis that they will get something to eat at the end of the day, but this approach will disastrous. BELA Bill has just been signed into law, where it states categorically that Grade R is now mandatory, imagine such young blameless kids spend a day without breakfast and lunch.

Cutting feeding scheme programme will risk children not coming to school anymore and it will be pointless to save jobs for teachers who will not have learners to teach.

As the movement, we are appealing to the MEC to rally behind national department and support the call for implementation of centralised model to avoid budget constraints. We hope as Gauteng they will do the right thing and safeguards the livelihoods of our children.

END

ABOUT FEED OUR KIDS



FeedOurKids.



Feed Our Kids



feedourkidsorg



Feed Our Kids Org

The Feed Our Kids Movement is committed to enhancing the lives of South African children by advocating for provision and access to nutritious food. Our primary focus is on combating stunting, as we understand that hunger poses a significant obstacle to both education and overall well-being. Our ultimate goal is to ensure that every student in South Africa has the opportunity to enjoy balanced, nourishing meals.