



SOUTH AFRICAN PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION [SAPA]

GAUTENG | PRESIDENTIAL NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S TERM 2 NEWSLETTER

A Message of Direction, Encouragement and Professional Solidarity

Start of Term 2 | 8 April 2026

TERM 2 PRIORITY

Lead with direction,
monitor with discipline,
and intervene early.

MEMBER CALL

Affiliate with SAPA Gauteng,
stay connected,
and visit the website.

SAVE THE DATE

Provincial Conference
4–5 June 2026
Emperors Palace

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Principals, Deputy Principals and Departmental Heads

As we prepare to begin Term 2 on 8 April 2026, I extend my warmest wishes to every member of the school leadership and education support community across Gauteng.

Term 2 is often the most decisive period of the academic year. It is the term in which schools must move from planning to execution, from monitoring to intervention, and from good intentions to measurable progress. This is therefore a time for visible leadership, professional courage and focused delivery.

As SAPA Gauteng, we want every member to know: we are with you, we support you, and we need you to do well in all that you do. Your success as a school leader is linked directly to the success of your school, your staff and your learners.

SAPA OBJECTIVES AND WHY THEY MATTER NOW

As we start this term, SAPA Gauteng calls members to live out the core objectives of the association in practical, school-based ways:

- i. promote and enhance educational leadership and effective school management teams.
- ii. strengthen opportunities for professional development.
- iii. encourage collaboration, networking and shared problem-solving.
- iv. uphold professionalism, integrity, collegiality, excellence and transparency.
- v. expand membership and strengthen the voice of school leaders.

These objectives must be seen in how we lead meetings, monitor teaching, support our staff, communicate with parents and respond to the daily realities of schooling.

SAPA GAUTENG STRATEGIC PILLARS FOR TERM 2

To guide our work this term, members are encouraged to focus intentionally on the following strategic pillars:

1. **Leadership for Learning**
Protect teaching time. Keep learning at the centre. Lead curriculum delivery with urgency and discipline.
2. **Data-Driven Improvement**
Use assessment evidence, attendance data and school trends to identify gaps early and respond with targeted interventions.
3. **Professional Development and Collaboration**
Grow your school leadership teams. Mentor emerging leaders. Share good practice across schools and districts.
4. **Effective School Management**
Drive accountability, follow through on plans, monitor implementation and ensure that every department knows what success looks like.
5. **Member Growth and Organisational Strength**
Affiliate with SAPA Gauteng, encourage others to join, and help build a stronger professional body for school leaders in our province.

CLEAR DIRECTIVES FOR TERM 2

For Term 2 to be successful, I encourage school leaders to prioritise the following:

- ✓ protect every minute of teaching and learning time;
- ✓ monitor annual teaching plan coverage weekly;
- ✓ strengthen learner support and intervention programmes;
- ✓ insist on punctuality, attendance and accountability at every level;
- ✓ provide consistent support to educators and support staff;
- ✓ maintain high expectations while leading with humanity and fairness;
- ✓ keep communication with parents clear, respectful and timely.

Leadership in this term must be both compassionate and demanding. We must support our people, but we must also insist on standards.

A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO SCHOOL LEADERS

School leadership can be lonely, demanding and deeply sacrificial work. Yet it is also some of the most meaningful work in society. Every timetable corrected, every educator guided, every learner supported and every parent/guardian engaged contributes to the future of Gauteng.

"Great schools are built by leaders who refuse to settle for average."

"Excellence is not an event; it is a daily leadership decision."

"Strong leaders create calm, clarity and momentum in uncertain times."

UPCOMING SAPA GAUTENG PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

Members are encouraged to look forward to the upcoming SAPA Gauteng Provincial Conference on 4 and 5 June 2026 at Emperors Palace.

This conference forms part of our year plan and will continue to strengthen leadership, professional learning, strategic dialogue and member solidarity across the province. More details will follow shortly, but members should already begin making space for this important gathering in their planning.

AFFILIATE. CONNECT. VISIT THE WEBSITE.

A strong association depends on active members. I therefore encourage all eligible school leaders to affiliate with SAPA Gauteng and to encourage colleagues to do the same.

Members are also encouraged to visit the SAPA Gauteng website (<https://sapagauteng.co.za/>) regularly for updates, events, leadership content and member information. Let the website become a living platform of connection, growth and communication for our profession.

CLOSING MESSAGE

As President of SAPA Gauteng, I thank you for your continued service, courage and professionalism.

May Term 2 be marked by disciplined execution, renewed hope, visible progress and inspired leadership.

Please know this clearly: SAPA Gauteng stands with you. We support you. We value you. And we believe in your ability to lead your schools well.

Let us begin strongly, lead faithfully and finish this term with excellence.



Mathibedi-wa-Medupe
President | SAPA Gauteng
7 April 2026