

ZIMTA MONTHLY BULLETIN

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NEWS & FEATURES

Minister Promises to
restore Teacher Status

PAGE 1

Salaries is Mopse
Mandate

PAGE 4

Call for Grade Alignment

PAGE 5

UNESCO Conducts Virtual
WTD 2021

PAGE 6



Minister Promises to Restore Teacher Status

BY VIRGINIA ZIFESHO

Newly appointed Minister of Primary and Secondary Education, Evelyn Ndlovu has vowed to restore the dignity of the teaching profession saying teachers play a critical role in national development matters.

In her speech during World Teachers' Day celebrations sponsored by ECOZI, Ndlovu said it was painful to watch the gradual deterioration in status of the noble profession.



"Indeed every professional is a direct product of a Teacher... I want to restore dignity."

Minister vows to restore Teacher Dignity:

STAFF REPORTER

"As a country we thus need to go back to the drawing board and reaffirm the role of education as a key enabler to the socio-economic development in this country.

"We should remember every profession and endeavor is dependent on a sound education base in order to succeed ,indeed every professional is a direct product of a teacher. you know as I told you, a teacher was respectable and I want to restore that dignity."

The minister said the theme resonated well with education sector considering the disasters that hit the country.

"Indeed this is an optune as the country is in the process of recovering from the latest global pandemic, teachers are at the heart of education recovery because of covid-19 and Cyclone Idai, we have come from one disaster to the other so it is very important that we are gathered here to appreciate the...

**DR EVELYN NDLOVU
MOPSE MINISTER**



Restoration: Minister Vows

Teacher Status to be Restored

..... the unique contribution of our teachers to national development both individual and collectively as a country,"

Minister Ndlovu called on teachers to soldier on as government works on improving salaries.

"I was assigned to look at the remuneration of teachers, to collaborate with the ministers of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare and Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development," Ndlovu told teachers and civil society members gathered for celebrations at Harare Gardens.

World Teachers' Day 2021 was celebrated under the theme, "Teachers at the heart of education recovery."

Status + Dignity

#TEACHERSMATTER

I was assigned to look at the remuneration of teachers and to collaborate with ministers of Public Service , & Higher Education

SALARIES IS MOPSE MANDATE!

BY STAFF WRITER

Teachers welfare part of your mandate, ZIMTA tells education minister

Zimbabwe Teachers' Association (ZIMTA) has castigated the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education for its failure to be actively involved in teacher welfare and living conditions despite being the biggest beneficiary of teacher input and output.

Speaking during World Teachers' Day celebrations in Harare, ZIMTA President, Richard Gundane urged the newly appointed minister to take a leading role in teacher remuneration issues.

"Often times we get ministers of the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education who will tell you plainly that the issue of what teachers get is not my mandate." "We do not agree, because this is the primary role of this ministry."

Gundane also urged the ministry to revisit the concept of job evaluation which was meant to realign different jobs across service ministries.



"TAKE A LEADING ROLE ON TEACHER SALARIES!"

TEACHERS AND REMUNERATION

He said job evaluation was critical in ensuring that each grade in the service industry was remunerated accordingly to ensure that there were no salary disparities across the grades.

"You will recall in the early 90s that was the time when we had job evaluation in this country

and that was an attempt to align different jobs across service ministry to the extent that we knew a particular rank in the army or police would be equated to a particular position in education or health.

"So what happened then along the lines, serious distortions happened, so what informed those distortions because we were not part of this all of a sudden,

Call for Grades realignment

By Staff Writer

there are serious disparities that have destroyed families. All of a sudden there is a mismatch, people who where in the same grade are earning different salaries. Are we still following the partason model or there is a completely new model that we are using that we are not aware of.

We would like to recommend that we go back to our job evaluation and realign these grades." Gundane's recommendations comes at a time when teachers are wallowing in poverty due to poor remuneration.

"Go Back to job evaluation and realign the grades!"





"We managed online lessons but we had challenges with those who couldn't afford ICT gadgets."

Unesco Conducts Virtual Celebrations WTD2021

STAFF REPORTER

James Lopez
DR EVELYNE NDLOVU

"SADC teachers have participated in the 2021 World Teachers Day celebrations held virtually by UNESCO ROSA in Harare on 8 October 2021 where they exchange their teaching experiences under the covid-19 pandemic and country lockdowns..

The teachers described different scenarios and situations through country representatives from teacher unions in the SADC region.

First to speak was a representative from South African teacher Union, who explained that many of his colleagues managed to use different media platforms in order to enable teaching processes to continue under lockdown situations.

"We managed to do online lessons with the students but we had challenges with those who could not afford ICT devices and we came up with the idea that their parents come to school to collect work for them which kind of worked for us because we did not want to leave anyone behind.



Unesco Virtual WTD 2021

by Staff Reporter

"We also used national broadcasters especially television to conduct lessons. This was an advantage because of other subjects that need practical's could easily be followed through television. Students could grasp concepts easily, but again there were those with no televisions at home who were definitely left behind."

Zimbabwean teacher Axilia Musekiwa also shared her teaching experience saying she used whatsapp platform for sending and receiving school work from students. Whatsapp seemed to be the only platform that was better to use for most of the students because I managed to cover some topics.

"The challenge I faced was that some students could not manage to write their work in time because they had to wait for their parents to come back from work in order for them to have access to their parents' cellphones, and then do the assignments."

A representative from Malawi said their Government supported home learning through radio programmes and online learning which was available for different subjects. "44% of learners had access to a radio in their households, either through a radio itself or a phone. This was higher in urban than rural areas given the high level of poverty among the learners, it was reasonable to assume that learners without mobile phones are less likely to have radios.

"Most learners could not be reached by distance teaching methodologies which rely on technology. Instead, we provided home learning packs including books, worksheets, pens and paper, and re-trained CBE facilitators to support home learning. We also provided information to parents and community members about how to help students to continue learning while at home. Facilitators met their learners once a week in groups of three or four at a location within the community which was suitable and easily accessible."

"those without televisions at home were definitely left behind!"

World Teachers' Day is a global observance celebrated each year to commemorate the signing of the UNESCO/ ILO recommendations on the status of teachers. This day was first celebrated in 1994 and has been observed worldwide on the 5th of October annually.

