



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE

Enquiries: Hilya Nuunyango
Tel: +264 61 -293 3201
Fax: +264 61-293 3932
Email: Hilya.Mbendeka@moe.gov.na
Ref: 12/P

Private Bag 13186
Windhoek
Namibia

26 July 2022

FORM ED CIRCULAR:06 /2022

**TO: HONOURABLE MINISTER
HONOURABLE DEPUTY MINISTER
CHIEF REGIONAL OFFICERS: REGIONAL COUNCILS
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE
DEPUTY DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE
INSPECTORS OF EDUCATION
PRINCIPALS
SCHOOL BOARD
TEACHERS
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICERS
NAMCOL
NANTU, NANSO**

**SUBJECT: DEVIATION FROM THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2022 – 28 AND 29
JULY 2022**

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Following the joint media release by the parties to dispute: The Government Negotiating Team (GNT) and the two bargaining unions NANTU and NAPWU, on the Balloting Process by Public Servants in respect of the unresolved dispute on the salary and other benefits for the financial years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023, preparations for this balloting process are underway. The parties also looked at practical logistics to have a credible, transparent balloting process and the dates 28th and 29th of July 2022 had been identified respectively.

2. LEGAL PROVISION

According to the Education Act 2001, (Act 16 of 2001), Section 37(2): ***“The Minister may approve a deviation from the school calendar determined under this section, either generally or for any particular school,”*** and in addition to the deviation issued through Form. Ed. Circular No.5 of 2022 with the heading of: “Amended School Calendar for 2022,” the following is issued:

3. DEVIATION

The Minister as mandated by the afore-mentioned Act, hereby grants permission for deviation from the approved Calendar for 2022. The Regional Directors of Education, Arts and Culture embedded in the respective Councils, are hereby tasked to oversee the suspension of teaching and learning activities for the day scholars on 28 and 29 July 2022 in order to allow the balloting process for teachers and Unified Staff on the establishment of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. Regional Directors through the respective Inspectors of Education, School Principals, Heads of Department, Teachers and School Boards should further oversee the release of Teachers and Unified Staff members to be afforded the opportunity to cast their ballots.

The hostel boarders must remain in their hostel and must be supervised by the Unified Staff on a shift basis. The shifted release of the Unified Staff to cast their ballots must be done in a manner that safeguards the health and well-being of the hostel boarders.

The Regional Directors, through Inspectors of Education, School Principals, Heads of Department, Teachers and School Boards must jointly craft a Plan to compensate for the teaching and learning time that will be suspended on 28 and 29 July 2022 to be recovered during the course of the second semester. The possible extension of teaching hours on future designated days could be options to consider.

4. CONCLUSION

Regional Directors are urged to communicate and publicise this information as widely and promptly as possible to ensure the health and well-being of the learners and to enable the smooth administration and conduct of the balloting process for Teachers and Unified Staff.

I thank you for your unity of purpose and efficiency in giving effect to this Formal Education Circular 06 of 2022.

Your sincerely,


SANET L. STEENKAMP
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PREVIOUS CIRCULAR NO:

AMENDED SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2022

NUMBER:

05/2022

ADDRESSEES:

**HONOURABLE MINISTER
HONOURABLE DEPU'Y MINISTER
CHIEF REGIONAL OFFICERS: REGIONAL COUNCILS
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE
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