

No.020- 2024: First Session, Seventh Legislature

GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tuesday, 30 July 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

TABLINGS

none

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The Chairperson of the Education Portfolio Committee, Hon. M Mhlongo, tabled the Committee's Oversight Report on the Detail of the Department of Education Budget Vote 05 of the Provincial Appropriation Bill [G001-2024] for the 2024/25 FY, as attached:



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Education Portfolio Committee Oversight Report on the Gauteng Department of Education Budget Vote 5 Report 2024/2025 FY

Committee Details		Department Details	
Name of Committee	Education Portfolio Committee	Name of Department	Gauteng Department of Education
Which Financial Year	2024/25	Dept. Budget Vote Nr.	05
		Name of MEC	Hon. M. K. Chiloane
Committee Approvals			
	Name	Signed	Date
Hon. Chairperson	Hon. M Mhlongo		29 July 2024
Adoption and Tabling			
Date of Final Adoption		Scheduled date of House Tabling	
Monday, 29 July 2024		Wednesday, 31 July 2024	

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1. Abbreviations

ECD	Early Childhood Development
EERS	Examination and Education Related Services
ELSEN	Education for Learners with Special Education Needs
ESSP	Extra School Support Programme
EPWP	Expanded Public Works Programme
FET	Further Education and Training
FIS	Focused Intervention Study
FY	Financial Year
GCRA	Gauteng City Region Academy
GDE	Gauteng Department of Education
GDID	Gauteng Department of Infrastructure Development
HOD	Head of Department
HR	Human Resources
ICT	Information Communication Technology
ID	Infrastructure Development
ISS	Independent Schools Subsidies
LTSM	Learner Teacher Support Material
MEC	Member of Executive Council
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
MST	Maths, Science and Technology
NIEMS	National Education Infrastructure Management Survey
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NQF	National Qualifications Framework
PFMA	Public Finance Management Act
POSE	Public Ordinary Schools Education
PSSE	Public Special School Education
PM	Performance Measure
SASA	South African Schools Act
SOM	Sector Oversight Model
SSIP	Secondary Schools Improvement Programme
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
SGB	School Governing Body
TMR	Transformation, Modernisation and Reindustrialisation

EDUCATION PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE

31 July 2024,

The Chairperson of the Education Portfolio Committee, Hon. M Mhlongo tables the Committee Oversight Report on the Gauteng Department of Education Budget Vote 5 of the Provincial Appropriation Bill for the 2024/25 Financial Year as follows:

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The oversight role of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature is provided for in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and one of the most critical roles of the Education Committee of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature is to ensure that provincial investment in the education sector effectively projects the national and provincial priorities.

The Committee's assessment of the Gauteng Department of Education Budget for the 2024/25 FY utilised the Sector Oversight Model (SOM) to verify whether the proposed inputs translate to outputs in order to realize the required outcomes thus ensuring that the funds apportioned to the Department are used cost effectively.

In the 2024 academic year, 2 737 596 learners are enrolled across the sector in Gauteng Schools. This shows a 69.6 % increase in public schools over the period from 1995 to 2024, with an average annual increase of 2% per year. There are 3 270 Gauteng schools of which 2 068 are public ordinary schools and 153 are special schools.

The 2024/25 FY budget shows that the Department received a total allocation of R65,8 billion. This includes monies from the main appropriation and R3.9 billion in conditional grants. The conditional grant allocation constitutes 6 per cent of the total allocation. The Department's budget's growth translates into 3.8 per cent. The report shows that R48.6 billion is for the Compensation of employees while R2.4 billion is allocated as a carry-through for improvement in conditions of services (ICS) programme.

The report further shows that the Department aims to maintain at least an 80-20 ratio between personnel to non-personnel costs although an increase in personnel costs is evident. The Department reports that key to the budget is to achieve the following, amongst others:

- Infrastructure development and the maintenance of schools' buildings.
- Transfers and subsidies to institutions and schools.
- Implementation of the National School Nutrition Policy.

- District development and support.
- Skills development and technical and vocational skills.

The Departmental overall budget appears to be responding to most of the provincial education priorities such as, amongst others: the delivery of quality education in a conducive learning environment, transforming public schooling by addressing barriers to access, equity and redress, and increase access to quality pre- and post-school educational opportunities. It is however difficult to assess how the delivery of schools will be done. This is due to the fact that the budget does not adequately accommodate the eradication of asbestos infrastructure, improving sanitation in most schools, provision of sporting fields in some of the schools that do not have, and major rehabilitative work that a number of schools require, amongst others.

The budget, according to the Department is geared towards the Capitalization of Township Technical Schools, enhancing e-learning through an investment in ICT, leasing of office buildings, and the provision of personal protective equipment to be used in schools. These will be realised through the Department's annual targets for all the programmes which are reported and shows how the allocation will be utilised.

Programme 1: Administration

The report shows that the total budget for Administration for the 2024/25 FY amounts to R5.0 billion from R5.1 billion in 2023/24 FY indicating a rand value decrease of R73.3 million which translates to a drop of 1.4 per cent.

Programme 2: Public Ordinary School Education

The overall budget of the programme increases in the 2024/25 FY. According to the Department, the increase is geared towards the implementation of the no-fee school policy, the compensation of employees and the implementation of the national and provincial intervention programmes which include resourcing of schools, especially to ensure that improved learner performance in literacy and numeracy are upheld. These according to the Department are as a result of increased learner enrolment, employment of more educators, opening of new schools, the implementation of intervention strategies to improve the quality of teaching and learning and the procurement of Learner Teacher Support Material (LTSM), amongst others.

Programme 3: Independent School Subsidies

The budget allocation for this programme has increased in the current FY. According to the Department, the funding will:

- Assist in increasing inspection, audit and oversight capacity to ensure compliance,
- Monitor the compliance of all independent schools with the conditions of registration,
- Enforce the regulation of all relocations to new sites by owners of independent schools,
- Train all new independent schools on Curriculum Assessment Policy Statements (CAPS) and the writing of standardised tests, and

- Train and support independent schools in the implementation of curriculum assessment policy statements.

Programme 4: Public Special School Education (PSSE)

The budget for this programme has increased in the current FY and appears to be enough to support the Departmental mandate towards PSSE. The Department's main outputs under this programme are aimed at the screening of learners to identify barriers to learning and development, identify learners in need of individualised learning support programmes, identify learners in need of alternative and to provide additional and departmentally managed sporting and cultural activities in public special schools.

Programme 5: Early Childhood Development (ECD)

The budget for ECD shows an increase in the current FY. According to the Department, the allocation will be utilised to expand Grade R to all public schools as well as registering new Grade R sites and procuring additional classrooms to meet the demand. Furthermore, the Department reports that it will identify Grade R practitioners for training to improve the quality of teaching and learning in the classroom.

Programme 6: Infrastructure Development

Infrastructure Development programme's budget increases towards new infrastructure, rehabilitation and upgrading of existing infrastructure.

Programme 7: Examination and Education Related Services.

The Department reports that through the budget in Examination and Education Related Services (EERS) the following will be carried out:

- Support will be provided to employees through human resource development in terms of the Skills Development Act and,
- Provide Departmentally managed examination services.

Although, the 2024/25 FY budget shows growth, there are glaring challenges with the allocation towards infrastructure projects which does not appear to respond to the critical brick and mortar classroom and a decrease in allocation towards Special Schools infrastructure projects. In addition, the Department is facing a challenge of inward migration, however, that is not adequately addressed in capital works expenditure.

As part of the drive towards the universalization of Grade R, the Department reported that it will develop plans to ensure that Grade RR is fully moved and aligned to the Department of Education's mandate. This is commendable particularly against the background of studies conducted that have repeatedly stated concerns regarding the readiness and coping mechanism of Grade R learners in the mainstream education system. The

distribution of the budget across other key areas such as Public Ordinary Schools Education will ensure that the Department improves access for the vulnerable category of learners.

2. INTRODUCTION

The oversight role of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature is provided for in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and one of the most critical roles of the Education Committee of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature is to oversee the implementation of policies by Gauteng Department of Education, but also to ensure that provincial investment in the education sector effectively projects the national and provincial priorities.

The Committee's assessment of the Gauteng Department of Education Budget for the 2023/24 FY utilised the Sector Oversight Model (SOM) to verify whether the proposed inputs (resources) translate to outputs (annual targets) in order to realize the required outcomes thus ensuring that the funds apportioned to the Department are used cost effectively.

3. PROCESS FOLLOWED

- On 08th April 2024, the office of the Speaker referred Budget Vote 5 of the Department for 2024/25 FY in terms of Rule 153 of the Standing Rules, to the Portfolio Committee on Education for consideration and reporting.
- At the Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 25th July 2024, the Committee Researcher presented the analysis of GDE's Budget Vote 5 of the Appropriation Bill for the 2024/25 FY.
- At the Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 25th July 2024, the Gauteng Department of Education presented the GDE's Budget Vote 5 of the Appropriation Bill for the 2024/25 FY.
- On Monday, 29th of July 2024, the Portfolio Committee deliberated and adopted the Committee Oversight Report on Budget Vote 5 for the 2024/25 FY.

4. COMPLIANCE AND QUALITY

The GDE submitted the details of Budget Vote 5 and the Annual Performance Plan for 2024/25 within the set timeframes, Formats, Quality and Legal Parameters in accordance with the Standing Rules: Rule 68 (1) and (2).

5. OVERSIGHT ON STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The GDE's mandate is informed by national and provincial priorities, which are defined in terms of policies of both spheres of government.

5.1 National priorities

In his State of the Nation Address in February 2024, the President of the Republic of South Africa, Honourable Ramaphosa stated that the focus of education will be on the following issues:

- Seeing improvements in the outcomes of basic education system.
- Continue to invest and expand access to early childhood development.
- The Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Delivery Initiative programme to deliver modern facilities to schools in rural and underprivileged urban areas across the country.

5.2 Provincial priorities

In his 2024's State of the Province Address, Gauteng Premier, Honourable Lesufi emphasised the following issues:

- The introduction of dedicated funding for the introduction of Coding and Robotics to meet the challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).
- Thirty-three (33) primary schools Grades R to 3 and 90 Grade 7 schools to participate in the pilot Coding and Robotics Programme.
- R2.2 billion has been invested towards bursaries from which 30 000 students have benefited through the Gauteng City Region financial assistance.
- The Gauteng City Region Academy has set aside R420 million for Gauteng students who have done exceptionally well in matric results.
- Invest in the improvement of outcomes in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

5.3 Provincial budget speech

Gauteng MEC for Department of Finance, Honourable Mamabolo indicated that the province intends to achieve the following:

- ❖ Construction of new schools such as Rust-ter-vaal Secondary School, Dr. W.K. du Plessis-skool for learners with special education needs and EW Hobbs Primary School.
- ❖ An allocation of R2.5 billion over the MTEF to complete the Universalisation of Grade R and preparing and piloting the introduction of Grade RR in public schools.
- ❖ An allocation of R954 million over the MTEF has been made available towards Schools of Specialization in an effort to produce the skills required by the economy.

5.4 Departmental Priorities

The Department's approach and plan for the next five years is aligned to the goal of eradicating the social, economic and spatial legacies of the country. GDE's six priorities over the next five years are as follows:

- ❖ Universalization of Grade R and Prepare for the introduction of Grade RR.

- ❖ Promote quality education across all classrooms and grades.
- ❖ Expand and enhance schools of specialization.
- ❖ Provincial, national, regional and international learner assessments.
- ❖ Skills for a changing world including technical high schools.
- ❖ Fourth Industrial Revolution, ICT and e-learning.

Key allocations include:

- R3.2 billion for direct transfers to Public Ordinary Schools, Early Childhood Development sites and Special Schools.
- R2.7 billion for the special school sector which caters for learners with intellectual and other disabilities.
- R1.2 billion to provide more than 1.4 million learners with a hot meal at school every day.
- R1 billion to transport learners who live more than 5 kilometers from the nearest school.
- R238 million to support the continued roll out of e-Learning strategy.
- R2 billion for textbooks, stationery, school furniture and other learner support materials.
- R196 million towards the teacher development and support initiatives.
- R159 million to improve the Grade 12 performance and to increase the bachelor pass rates.

According to the Department, its major sub-outcomes in the NDP include:

- ❖ Access to quality ECD,
- ❖ Improved quality teaching and learning,
- ❖ Capacity of the state to intervene and support quality education,
- ❖ Increased accountability for improved learning,
- ❖ Human resources development and management of schools, and
- ❖ Infrastructure and learning materials to support effective education.

Essentially, the goals of the Department are in agreement with national and provincial priorities concerning education. They strive towards improving quality basic education in the province. In general, the budget seems to be responding to most of the national and provincial priorities. The Portfolio Committee will therefore monitor the performance of the Department on a quarterly basis to assess whether they are working towards achieving the national and provincial policy priorities.

6. OVERSIGHT ON TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE

6.1 Programme 1: Administration

The total budget for Administration for the 2024/25 FY amounts to R5.0 billion from R5.1 billion in 2023/24 FY which indicates a rand value decrease of R73.3 million which translates to a drop of 1.4 per cent.

In line with economic classification, Compensation of employees under programme 1 has decreased from the main appropriation of R4.1 billion in 2023/24 FY to R4 billion in 2024/25 FY, indicating a decrease of 1.4 per cent, which translates to a rand value increase of R59.7 million. According to the report, this is due to the reprioritisation of the budget towards post-provisioning of educator positions.

Moreover, the Department reports that the budget for Goods and services remains the second largest cost item under current payments. As such, payments for Capital Assets budget decreased from R21.3 million that was allocated in the 2023/24 FY decreases to R19.6 million in the 2024/25 FY. The Department further indicates that the funds under this line item are made available for the replacement of old, damaged, lost and obsolete laptops and other IT equipment.

The Department has further allocated the Education Management Information Systems an amount of R27.1 million in the 2024/25 FY to ensure connectivity in schools and to enable schools to utilise SA-SAMS to provide learner data to the National Learner Tracking System.

For the 2024/25 financial year, the Department intends to achieve 2 216 public schools that use school administration and management systems to electronically provide data to the national learner tracking system; 2 216 Number of public schools that can be contacted electronically (e-mail); and 25.8% of education current expenditure going towards non-personnel items.

6.2 Programme 2: Public Ordinary School Education

This programme provides public ordinary education from Grade1-12 according to the South African Schools Act.

The Public Ordinary School education budget increased from R44,5 billion in 2023/24 to R47,3 billion in 2024/25. The budget showed an increase of 6.2% which translates to a rand value increase of R2,7 billion.

Goods and services' budget declines to R5.1 billion in the 2024/25 FY, this shows a decline of R58 million in the 2024/25 FY. According to the report, the decline in allocation towards Goods and services is as a result of budget cuts implementation of R115.4 million in the 2024/25 FY as part of fiscal consolidation. The Committee notes that the Department is subsidizing 1 395 No-Fee Schools with a combined enrolment of 1 510 000 learners in the year under review.

Moreover, the Department reported that the budget for school nutrition mobile kitchens is reprioritised within the school nutrition programme in order to fund the provision of food.

Further, the Department indicates that the budget for transfers and subsidies decreased from R3.5 billion in 2023/24 FY to R R3.3 billion in 2024/25 FY, which indicates a decrease of 5.7 per cent and a translation to a rand value of R145.7 million.

The Public Primary School sub-programme according to the Department received R25.5 billion which includes funding earmarked for interventions in the Foundation and Intersen Phase. This amount includes a total allocation of R25.9 million earmarked for interventions in the Foundation Phase and Language and Mathematics in the Intermediate Phase, with emphasis in the Intermediate Phase.

The Department has allocated the Human Resource Development sub-programme a budget aimed at increasing capacity of personnel who provide specialised services in the sector. Of the total allocated, R202 million, R110 million is for content training, assessments, teaching and learning methodologies.

The Department further explains that they have allocated R40.6 million for the implementation of school sport tournaments in soccer, rugby, cricket, netball and athletics in the province wherein R13.8 million is for youth and culture, R16.7 million is for sports, R7.4 million for values in education and R2.5 million is for school health. In terms of the spending pattern, the Committee noted that the programme has managed to spend its allocation sufficiently through its various sub-programmes in the previous financial years.

In the 2024/25 Financial Year, the Department intends to achieve the targets as shown in the table below:

Programme Performance measures	2024/25
SOI 201: Number of schools provide with multi- media resources	270
SOI 202: Number of learners in public ordinary schools benefiting from “No Fee Schools” policy	1 510 000
SOI 203: Percentage of learners in schools funded at a minimum level	100%
SOI 204: Number of foundation phase teachers trained in literacy content and methodology.	2 500
SOI 205: Number of foundation phase teachers trained in numeracy content and methodology.	3 000
SOI 206: Number of teachers trained in mathematics content and methodology.	2400
SOI 207: Number of teachers trained in language content and methodology.	1 500

The Department also plans to provide school nutrition to 1 665 349 disadvantaged learners in Quintiles 1 -5; provide 210 915 learners with access to scholar transport and place 15 000 learners in SSIP camps.

6.3 Programme 3: Independent School Subsidies

The programme provides independent ordinary education from Grades 1-12 in independent schools in line with the South African Schools Act.

The Department reports that for the 2024/25 FY, this programme received an allocation of R1,0, billion. The subsidy to independent schools decreases by R4 million while it increases by an average rate of 2.9 per cent over the 2024 MTEF. The department indicated that the independent School sector has grown significantly

due to growth in the number of schools that meet the qualifying requirements for registration with the Department.

Furthermore, the Committee noted that transfer and Subsidies budget increased slightly by R6.2 million in 2024/25 FY, this translates to an increase of 0.6 per cent. The Department also reports that the curriculum branch will continue to give support to Independent Schools to improve learner performance by providing LTSM and will also assist in the analysis of results to develop improvement plans.

6.4 Programme 4: Public Special School Education

The programme is aimed at providing compulsory public education in special schools in relation to SASA and White Paper 6 on inclusive education.

This programme receives an allocation of R5.0 billion in the 2024/25 FY, which shows a budget decrease of R187.8 million as compared to R5.2 billion received during the 2023/24 FY allocation. Only sub-programme 1 (Schools) received a budget decrease, thus contributed to the budget reduction of PSSE.

Compensation of employees under programme 4 accounts for the largest share of R3.9 billion. They show that compensation of employees' budget has decreased by R194.5 million. The department reports that the budget decrease is as a result of reprioritisation in line with post provisioning plan which prioritised educators' posts in public ordinary schools.

In addition, the report shows that the Department has allocated R72.3 million towards the expansion of the Special Schools programme and to improve the quality of programmes for learners with special educational needs and autism. The report further demonstrates that a total amount of R2.7 million is allocated towards school sports programmes which covers multiple sporting disciplines for learners with special educational needs.

For the 2024/25 financial year, the Department intends to have 61 277 learners in public special schools, 623 therapists/ specialist staff in public special schools; and 4 600 educators employed in public special schools.

6.5 Programme 5: Early Childhood Development

This programme is aimed at providing Early Childhood Development at Grade R and earlier levels in accordance with to White Paper 5.

The 2024/25 budget shows that the total budget allocated towards Early Childhood Development amounts to R2.4 billion, showing a net increase of R108 million from the previously allocation.

Compensation of employee's budget has increased from R1.2 billion to R1.3 billion in the 2024/25 FY. According to the report this is because of carry through costs associated with personnel. The Department will over the current financial year transfer R851 million to Grade R in public schools, Pre-Grade R centres and the ECD conditional grants towards subsidies for Pre-Grade R Centres.

The sub-programme Pre-Grade R in Early Childhood Development Centres received 18 per cent of the total programme budget which translates into a rand value amount of R439 million. This allocation is made up of R17 million dedicated to the ECD Institute, R38.5 million for Pre-Grade R Training and R29.6 million towards operational functions.

The committee noted that Pre-Grade R in ECD centres is the only sub-programme that has seen a budget reduction. The Department should describe the factors that contributed to the budget reduction and the implications this will have on service delivery under this sub-programme.

For the 2023/24 FY, the department targets to ensure 76% of all Grade 1 learners have formal grade R education; 1 409 schools that offer Grade R and 132 000 learners enrolled in Grade R; 1 560 fully registered ECD sites and 110 000 children in fully registered ECD sites.

6.6 Programme 6: Infrastructure Development (ID)

The Programme is aimed at providing and maintaining infrastructure facilities for administration and schools. Infrastructure Development has received an allocation of R2, 689, 474,000.00 in the 2024/25 FY. The increase represents R228 million which translates to an increase of 9.3 per cent. The funding consists of R2.2 billion infrastructure grant, R353.7 million equitable share and R39 million for ECD maintenance grant. An additional, R1.1 billion will be allocated over the MTEF through the infrastructure equitable share.

The Department reports that it will allocate R2.3 billion to infrastructure programme in Public Ordinary Schools and a further R59 million towards Early Childhood Development centres.

The Department indicated that priority will be placed on completion of projects that are currently under construction and planning process of projects that will be implemented during the 2024/25 FY. However, the Committee is concerned about the fund's allocation towards Special Schools Infrastructure. The budget has been in distressed allocation despite the challenges faced due to the lack of adequate access to Public Special Schools in the Province.

The Committee requests the Department should explain the factors that contributed to the budget reduction of special schools' sub-programme and the implications this will have on the provision of infrastructure development in special schools.

In addition, the Department does not seem to be able to move with speed in relation to the implementation of the norms and standards for public school infrastructure.

For the 2024/25 financial year the Department intends to achieve 295 schools were scheduled maintenance projects were completed and 350 classrooms refurbished as smart classrooms.

6.7 Programme 7: Examination and Education Related Services (EERS)

Examination and Education Related Services provides education institutions with training and support.

In the current FY, EERS programme received a total allocation of R2, 250, 026,000.00 when compared to R2, 824, 135,000.00 received during the 2023/24 FY. This shows a rand value decrease of R574 million which translates into 25 per cent. According to the report, the decrease is as direct result of the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative which has ceased.

Furthermore, the budget allocation towards compensation of employees under this programme decreases from a main appropriation of R454 million in 2023/24 FY to R442.6 million in 2024/25 FY, indicating a decrease of 2.7 per cent which translates to a rand value decrease of R12 million.

The Department reports that it has developed a Safe Schools Programme that will integrate psycho-social and physical security in schools. The Gauteng City Region Academy (GCRA) under the Professional Services Sub-Programme, is allocated R18.2 million towards school safety which includes advocacy and development of School Safety Plans in all priority schools.

The Department further states that the GCRA budget in the Sub-programme, Special Projects has been allocated R935 million in an effort to empower young people so that they are career ready whilst encouraging high school completion.

For the 2023/24 financial year, the Department intends to achieve 88% of learners who passed National Senior Certificate (NSC); 44,5% of Grade 12 learners passing at bachelor level; 30,5of Grade 12 learners achieving 60% or more in Mathematics; 21, 5% of Grade 12 learners achieving 60% or more in Physical Science; and 900 secondary schools with National Senior Certificate (NSC) pass rate of 60% and above.

7. Staffing

The total provincial personnel numbers headcount is 108 865 which shows an increase of 340 in personnel numbers owing to the ongoing need to employ additional educators to cater for high learner numbers in schools and this will cost the Department a total amount of R46 689 266 000.

8. OVERSIGHT ON FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The Department indicates that its revenue is obtained from the provincial equitable share and conditional grants. The 2024/25 budget totalling R65,8 billion is composed of:

- Equitable Share (94,0%) and
- Conditional Grants (6.0%)

The Department's budget's growth translates into 3.8 per cent. The report shows that R48.6 billion is for the Compensation of employees while R2.4 billion is allocated as a carry-through for improvement in conditions of services (ICS) programme.

The conditional grants allocated to the Department are as follows:

- **HIV/AIDS (Life Skills Education) Grant** – to support South Africa's HIV prevention strategy.

- The **National School Nutrition Programme Grant** – to provide nutritious meals to targeted learners.
- The **Technical Secondary Schools Recapitalisation Grant** – to recapitalise technical schools.
- The **Maths, Science and Technology Grant** – to promote Mathematics and Physical Science teaching and learning; and
- The **Education Infrastructure Grant** – for the construction and maintenance of school infrastructure.

The budget allocation for POSE (R47, 331, 416, 000. 00) appears to be adequate to enable the Department to accomplish the planned targets for the current FY. The budgets for Admin (R5, 038, 256, 000. 00), ISS (R1,034, 784, 000. 00), PSSE (R5, 061, 320, 000. 00), ECD (R2,437, 663, 000. 00), and EERS (R2, 689, 474, 000), also seem to be responding to the anticipated outputs. Infrastructure Development’s allocation (R2, 250, 026, 000. 00) appears to be sufficiently funded to respond to the day-to-day infrastructure needs within the Vote. Nevertheless, the quarterly performance of the Department will be monitored to verify if the funding for this programme is used to address the infrastructure challenges in schools.

9. RESOLUTIONS MANAGEMENT

Information on the Department’s implementation of House Resolutions for the period under review:

RESOLUTIONS MANAGEMENT		
RESOLUTIONS PASSED DURING THE PREVIOUS QUARTER	RESOLUTIONS / ACTION DUE DURING THE QUARTER UNDER REVIEW	RESOLUTIONS CLOSED
3 resolutions emanating from the Committee Oversight Report on the Gauteng Department of Education 3 rd Quarterly Report for the 2023/2024 FY	3 emanating from the Committee Oversight on the 3 rd Quarterly Report for the 2023/2024 FY	The Committee will receive the research analysis and deliberate on the responses in the next Quarter.
<i>Through its oversight process in line with the SOM and PEBA models the Committee will embark on a number of FIS and Oversight Visits for verification purposes.</i>		

10. FINDINGS, PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS, AND IMPLICATIONS ON LAW MAKING

1. Committee Findings / Concerns

- **Programme 5:** The Committee is concerned about the funds allocation towards Special Schools Infrastructure despite the challenges faced due to the lack of adequate access to Public Special Schools in the Province.

- **Programme 4:** The committee noted that Pre-Grade R in ECD centres is the only sub-programme that has seen a budget reduction.
- **Programme 6:** The Committee is concerned about the infrastructure backlog in relation to asbestos classrooms, new schools, maintenance and upgrading of existing infrastructure.

2. Proposed Committee Recommendations

- The Department to explain the factors that contributed to the budget reduction of special schools' sub-programme and the implications this will have on the provision of infrastructure development in special schools by 15 August 2024.
- The Department should explain the factors that contributed to the budget reduction in sub-programme Pre- Grade R in ECD Centres and the implications this will have on service delivery under this sub-programme by 15 August 2024.
- The Department to provide the plan (including alternative methods/mechanisms) to address the infrastructure backlog in relation to asbestos classrooms, new schools, maintenance and upgrading of existing infrastructure by 15 August 2024.

11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- The Portfolio Committee on Education wishes to thank the MEC for Education, Hon. MK Chiloane and his senior officials for the presentation of the budget and the substantial and sustained efforts they have made to inform the Portfolio Committee of the details of the Budget Vote.
- The Chairperson, Hon M. Mhlongo, would like to thank the Honourable Portfolio Committee Members: M Sesedinyane, L E Makhubela, S Dos Santos, M Waters, F Ngobeni, L Mkhwanazi and A Allie for their dedication and support during this process.
- The Portfolio Committee would like to thank the Group Committee Co-ordinator, Ms. Zuziwe Pantshwa-Mbalo, Senior Researcher, Ms. Sekinah Nenweli, Senior Committee Co-ordinator, Ms. Sharlene Gaya, Committee Co-ordinator, Mr. Pheello Mashiloane, Committee Administrator, Mr. Thabo Kekana, Committee Researcher, Mr. Joseph Makhura, Hansard Recorder, Ms. Raksha Singh, Service Officer, Ms. Mavis Nhlapo, Media Officer Mr. Takalani Ndou, Senior Information Officer, Mr. Jacky Letsoalo, and Public Participation Support, Mr. Lentswe Mothobi, Ms. Refilwe Mathebula and Mr. Siphuxolo Mthwazi, for the commitment they have shown during the budget process.

12. ADOPTION

In accordance with Rule 117 (2) (c) read together with Rule 164, I, Moipone Mhlongo, the Education Portfolio Committee Chairperson hereby recommends that the Education Portfolio Committee Oversight

Report on the Gauteng Department of Education Budget Vote 5 Report 2024/2025 FY be adopted by the House, taking into account committee concerns and proposed recommendations made in this report.