

CONFERENCE DECLARATION OF THE 5TH TRIENNIAL PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

The South African Democratic Teachers Union (SADTU) Gauteng Province held its 5th Triennial Provincial Conference from 21 – 24 September 2011 at Birchwood hotel in Boksburg under the theme:

“Organise and Empower Education Workers to Deliver Quality Public Education and Build Socialism”

The 231 delegates drawn from the Province, 46 branches and 5 Regions representing 32174 members have adopted the following declaration:

On Political Matters:

- We reaffirm the decisions/resolutions of SADTU and COSATU on swelling the ranks of the ANC and SACP. This include encouraging of SADTU members to support the SACP party building programmes and debit order campaign.
- We welcome the decision of the ANC to retain election structures and deploy SADTU cadres into such structures at all levels. We will also build into the union’s campaigns key pillars of the elections campaign towards 2014.
- That the joint SADTU/SACP Political Education programme be accelerated so that it reaches all structures in 2012.
- That we improve the functioning of the education alliance at all levels through PEC led bilateral towards an Education Alliance summit in 2012 where a joint programme of action will be adopted.
- That union must vigorously defend its rights and independence as provided in the Constitution and relevant legislation with the view to ensure that the union is not threatened and attacked.

On Organisational Matters:

- We intensify the Letsema recruitment campaign and improve our membership capturing, processing and communication systems.
- We accelerate the process of re-demarcation of structures in order to enhance service delivery to our members.

- That we develop dedicated and customized capacity building programmes for elected office bearers at all levels.
- That we deploy our women cadres to the PWMSA so as to inform its political content and enhance its functionality with the achievement of its programmes.

On Education Matters:

- That we pursue a review in the administration of the ANA with respect to the timing, frequency marking remuneration, language and the release of results.
- That the envisaged CAPS training scheduled for October be rejected and in this regard, the PEC is mandated to engage the MEC on this matter.
- That we review the administration of the NTA process in order to ensure maximum participation and benefits to educators.
- That we pursue advocacy, minimal paper work and union participation in the development of criteria as well as adjudication for the proposed provincial education workers awards.
- That we work closely with COSATU on the Adopt a School project in order to ensure its success
- That we monitor the implementation of the Soweto Education Summit declaration and resolutions.
- That we pursue the reviewal of the Post Provisioning norms for ELSEN schools

On Labour Matters:

- That the Conference adopts the Provincial Education and Labour Policy Conference recommendations.
- That GDE Proposed Realigned Structure be subjected to further intensive consultation with our members and to this end, the conversion of posts should not result in the limitation of career pathing for educators and the migration of district units to Head Office. We discourage the changing of the character of the department particularly where such may result in the differentiated job descriptions of education workers in the district offices and head office respectively.
- That we discourage our members who are principals and deputies from participating in competency assessments and further demand that this process be stopped and reject the competency tests for Grade 12 Markers
- That the matter pertaining to the suspension of the Regional Chairperson of Central Region be speedily concluded in terms of the Conference resolution

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