



PRETORIA HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

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Dear Old Girls

The Old Girls' Association has had the opportunity to reflect on the recent events and we are deeply saddened by the way that our prestigious school's name has been brought into disrepute. This has involved print and screen media, and social media throughout the world. This follows serious allegations from girls attending the school which resulted in the intervention of the MEC for Education, Mr Panyaza Lesufi and subsequent to this, an investigation will be held over the next few weeks.

The school motto '*Prosit Spes Labori*' (We Work in Hope) represents so much more than many have erroneously tried to reduce it to during these unfortunate events.

As an alumni we abhor all forms of racism, intolerance, violence, victimization, bullying and any form of political interference in the school.

We believe in open forms of communication between the SMT, the educators and the learners so that an environment conducive to education can be restored.

What has always set Pretoria High School for Girls apart in the educational landscape is its long and distinguished history and tradition coupled with the remarkable stability of its leadership. We as Old Girls are confident that the School Management Team and School Governing Body will continue to maintain high standards of excellence and successfully embrace change. We also believe that discipline is important to ensure that the quality of education is not compromised.

The Old Girls' Association and Old Girls of the school are proud and passionate about our school building that was declared a National Heritage Monument in 1977. All learners should be proud to attend such a prestigious school.

We are confident that the School Governing Body and the School Management Team will address the issues raised without compromising the standards of the school, as Pretoria High School for Girls has always been considered a "leader" where others follow.

There still needs to be everyday life after all the public attacks, praises and attentions have come and gone and we are confident that the learners will be given the full support by the school to understand and process their choices and actions.

As Pretoria High School for Girls approaches its 114th birthday, the school has grown from 106 to close on 1500 learners, with a staff of close to 120. Girls from all corners of the earth study at the school, and the student body is truly representative of the cultural and racial diversity of our country.

Change is inevitable, it provides us with a challenge and an opportunity to grow and improve.

We wish the school well in all its endeavours.

Yours sincerely

Miss Kim Lovegrove
Chairlady