



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

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**May 22, 2018**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For immediate Release**

**MEASURES TO TACKLE SECONDARY SCHOOL FIRES**

The Ministry of Education is concerned about the spate of fires in secondary schools that have destroyed dormitories of 10 schools during the Second Term. The Ministry is determined to preempt any further incidents to ensure students' safety and prevent damage to property.

Consequently, the Cabinet Secretary, after wide consultations with critical stakeholders in the sector, has resolved to put in place the following measures to forestall any further incidents:

1. All Regional Coordinators of Education (RCEs) and Country Directors of Education (CDEs) must recall all their administrators who are currently on leave to help monitor the security situation in schools. These include Sub-County Directors of Education and County Quality Assurance and Standards Officers.

2. All school principals, their deputies and boarding masters/mistresses of all boarding schools must reside in school quarters to ensure effective supervision of school programs, student behaviour and progress.
3. All regional meetings, including those for the Annual Kenya Secondary School Heads Association for Counties, that take place during **TERM DATES** are suspended forthwith to allow principals attend to students' concerns at all times.

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4. Schools should strengthen their guidance and counseling departments to effectively address any challenging concerns around their institutions.
5. All Boards of Management (BOMs) must hold meetings within their respective schools over the next 7 days to assess the state of their institutions, including discipline and security. The BOMs should submit reports of these meetings to the office of the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education not later than 5pm on May 31, 2018.
6. Principals must compile daily briefs on their schools' security and discipline situation and report to the respective County Quality Assurance and Standards Officers.
7. Field officers, including Quality Assurance and Standards Officers, must step up school inspection and assessments to ensure adequate feedback geared towards forestalling insecurity situations in schools.
8. All education officials must implement findings of the Special Investigation Team on School Unrest (2016), disseminated by the Ministry of Education last year in particular:
  - a. School administrators should report students who engage in criminal activities to the police for prosecution.

- b. Disciplinary action, including prosecution should be taken against any school administration that conceals, colludes or abets in criminal activities by students or refuses to investigate them.
- c. School administration and management should report to the police the presence of drugs and prohibited substances for investigation.

**Amb (Dr.) Amina Mohamed, EGH, CAV**  
**Cabinet Secretary for Education**

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