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**BACKGROUND OF WINDY HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Windy Heights is a quintile 2, no-fee, primary school situated in the heart of Malukazi area outside Isipingo in the South of Durban. The school operates within the boundaries of Phumelela Circuit and Umlazi District. Malukazi is a home to scores of diverse populations. Windy Heights was built in the mid 80s after some senior citizens in the area liaised with the officials of the then Provincial Department of Education, indicating that there was a serious need for a new state-of-the-art institution that would cater for the needs of the primary school learners from the area. The negotiations and campaigns aimed towards achieving this goal were being spearheaded by one of the oldest citizens Mr Dawood Kader who is now late.

The citizen’s triumph in their negotiations with government led to a need to get a piece of land where the school was going to be built. Another senior citizen by the name of Maurice Fayers who owned a huge farm in the area became a Good Samaritan and donated the land where the school was built. His family then relocated to the nearby Isipingo suburb.

Windy Heights then came into existence. The school opened its doors and started operating in 1989. The classes start from Grade R and move up to Grade 7. When the school started operating, it was one of the most privileged schools in the 80s. Due to the changes in technology leading to an ever growing demand to improve educational resources and infrastructures, the school finds itself in a constant need to keep up with modernity. Most of the things that were considered ‘modern’ three decades ago are no longer relevant now. The school is currently sitting at an enrolment of nearly 1900.

While the majority of learners come from Malukazi, the come from the neighbouring areas that include Umlazi Township, Umbumbulu, Ezimbokodweni, Folweni , KwaMakhutha and Lotus Park.

The school currently works on a five-year plan which clearly outlines the goals to be achieved over this particular period. The mission is to improve the lives of the people of Malukazi by equipping learners from this community with quality education that will guarantee them better opportunities in the future.

This includes topping the list of priorities with running literacy campaigns and ensuring the success of all programmes that are intended to help learners up their literacy levels.

With the culture of reading dying world-wide and the all the predicaments that come with living in a disadvantaged community like Malukazi informal settlement, learners from this area need special attention and all good resources in the school so they can improve their literacy levels.

It is for this reason that the school doesn’t only focus on curricular-based teaching but also equally focuses on offering extra reading classes, library programmes that assist learners in terms of teaching of skills, rare sport codes and other extra-curricular activities.

Over the past decades, the school has produced a number of learners who are now key players in different career fields, working towards the betterment of local economy.