

Lack of Sports Facilities: Katane Primary School

Katane Primary School is a rural community school situated +- 60km from the city of Polokwane in Limpopo Province. It is also +-4km from the main tyred road.

The school was established by the community and because it was the responsibility of the community to build a school for their children, two of the five blocks are in a dilapidated state. The three remaining blocks are half finished, i.e. no plastering, no ceiling and when it rains, walls and roof are leaking. The community is unable to raise funds because most of them are labourers at nearby farms and therefore they live from hand to mouth. Some parents are not working at all.

Katane Primary School is a learning centre for learners with ages ranging from 6 to 16. It is in this centre that the children's right for education is exercised. It is in this centre that the child should be developed intellectually and physically. Hence the saying a HEALTHY MIND DWELLS IN A HEALTHY BODY.



Lack of sports facilities creates a serious problem since work without play makes John a dull boy. Our learners will always:

1. Underperform if they don't get a chance to play at school
2. Play truant if they don't enjoy schooling
3. Abuse drugs if they get bored
4. Fall pregnant at an early stage
5. Drop out of school

Let us remember that an IDLE MIND IS THE DWELLING PLACE FOR THE DEVIL. The above-mentioned factors will affect the community of Segweshi adversely. The community will continue to have high illiteracy rate, lack of skills. If the community is illiterate and unskilled, this will affect the Limpopo Province. If the Limpopo is affected so will be our country of South Africa.

At Katane School educators are willing to see learners begin developed intellectually and physically. We have made a netball ground. This ground is on a sloppy area, the ground is not flat and it is not fenced. There are steel poles with rings, but the rings have n nets because the ground is underdeveloped, and there are no permanent lines. We use ashes to make lines when learners play and sometimes they fall and get injured.

We do not have sports ground for tennis, soccer, and volley ball. The boys are forced to travel 1 ½ km to a nearby community soccer field.

Despite the bad conditions girls enjoy playing in this ground. We have seen some of our girls selected to play for the circuit and for the regional competitions.

When less monitored boys will join and a fight erupt. To lessen the problem boys are taken out to the community soccer ground to play there.

Junior Primary Educators use the same netball ground to develop gross and fine motors of their learners. They also use it to develop coordination and dominance. It is during these early stages that talents are identified but because of the bad state of our ground and because of congestion it is always difficult to achieve set goals.

The community being illiterate cannot relate or associate the problems at home with sporting activities. Some have been conditioned to believe that better things are not for rural or black people.

At Katane we are prepared to stop at nothing. We take learners to the community soccer ground and engage them in athletics. We have a record of learners who reaches national level in athletics. We enter whatever competition available for schools e.g. Love Life South African School Sports Association, etc. We also encourage them to enter for out of school activities such as Athletic South Africa. The problem with this one is lack of monitoring. This is our way of keeping them busy at school, our way of instilling love for games, our way of unearthing their talents and our way of keeping their body and their minds fit and strong. A healthy and well developed brain will perform more functions than an underdeveloped brain.

Should we be provided with proper sport ground we have no doubt our learners will reach international level.

