



THE THOUGHT LEADER IN COOPERATIVE SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

GBF ARE YOUR “FIRST AID”



- **WHO** are we?
- **WHY** do we exist?
- **HOW** do we achieve that
for which we exist?

We are

- a **voluntary association** of school governing bodies.
- a **national body** which has members in all nine provinces and offices in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Gqeberha and Durban.
- a **non-profit** organisation and registered as a PBO
- **non-aligned, independent** – in terms of politics, other organisations including unions
- **recognised** by the Department of Basic Education and the provincial education departments as a key stakeholder and are regularly invited to participate in consultative forums at national, provincial and district level and to contribute its views on educational matters. (While the GBF works alongside the education departments, it nevertheless maintains its status as an independent organisation. But NOT adversarial.)

WHY do we exist?

- Today's schools and SGBs find themselves treading a **minefield** of education and labour legislation, regulations & provincial instructions.
- Have to be conversant with
 - financial procedures
 - HR / employment matters
 - disciplinary procedures (learners and staff)
 - policy development, and so on
- To handle all of this have to know
 - how an SGB functions
 - the difference between management and governance
- That's why the **GBF was founded in 1997** – to assist schools and SGBs with these and other demands.

HOW do we about assisting schools?

- WEBSITE: Provides:
 - **templates** of essential documents (e.g. school policies, employment contracts, job descriptions, codes of conduct)
 - **advice documents** dealing with a range of topics (e.g. disciplinary hearings, SGB elections, procurement procedures, managing finances)
- NEWSLETTERS: Keep members **informed of developments** in education and provide advice to schools. (e.g. cultural dress issues; cyber bullying; police clearance for staff; enrolling foreign learners; school insurance; issuing medicine to learners; labour law changes and employment contracts; roles and responsibilities of SGB members)

SEMINARS, WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS:

FACE TO FACE AND ONLINE on a variety of topics

TRAIN



SUPPORT

Assist principals and SGBs with **individual queries** on a daily basis - many of them requiring multiple inputs - relating, inter alia, to learner discipline, human resources, financial resources, policies, SGB relationships and much more.

GUIDE



EMPOWER



www.gbf.org.za

NEWSLETTER

**BELIEVE IN
YOURSELF.**

**STRENGTH
DOESN'T COME
FROM WHAT YOU
CAN DO. IT
COMES FROM
OVERCOMING
THE THINGS YOU
ONCE THOUGHT
YOU COULDN'T.**

WACHABUY.COM

UPLIFT

**YOU ARE
MORE THAN
CAPABLE.
BELIEVE IN
YOURSELF!**

@JENESSAWAIT

**“Nothing is impossible.
The word itself says,
‘I’m possible!’”**

Audrey Hepburn

There's more ...

- **But the GBF does more than provide information or answer queries:**
 - We engage with principals and SGB members in a **supportive manner** that goes beyond merely supplying information and legal stipulations.
 - **It is this relationship with our schools is what makes the GBF a distinctive governing body association.**

As one principal and SGB put it, 'it's so reassuring for me knowing that you are just on the other side of an email or phone call'.

- **In addition to working with schools**
 - the GBF meets regularly with the provincial and national education departments and is represented at various education forums
 - In line with our **emphasis on cooperative school governance**, we as an organisation work alongside the education authorities rather than adopt an adversarial approach – but are prepared to be critical.



GOVERNANCE SGB IN A NUTSHELL

**Build sound
relationships based on
trust and respect**

Act in terms of basic principles / values

Communication

Transparency

Confidentiality

Conflict of interest

Act within the Law

Act as a collective

BE A TEAM PLAYER





Mrs Wendy Elshove
072 719 9441/011 672 8133
wendyelshove@gbf.org.za
PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER
GAUTENG, MPUMALANGA, LIMPOPO,
NORTH WEST, FREE STATE.