

**EKUPHILENI PRIMARY SCHOOL
&
ROTARY CLUB OF MANZINI
SWAZILAND
PROJECT SPECIAL REPORT FOR
2016**



DISTRICT 9400



BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR EKUPHILENI PRIMARY SCHOOL

This school is situated between the Lubombo and Manzini Region mountains. The rough terrain and the gravel road leads you to this primary school. It has a population of 258 pupils (143 boys and 115 girls)most of which come from under privilege families. By under privilege we refer to the orphaned, orphaned and vulnerable, vulnerable and child headed families. These children have benefitted from the free education recently introduced by the government.

The school revenue mostly goes to food, which is the reason why some pupils come to school. It is for that reason that it is has over the years become hard to buy furniture and other essentials needed for the daily running of the school. The pupils walk long distances to and from school. The Rotary Club of Manzini stepped in to assist with classroom furniture.

CLASSES

The classes are densely populated with minimal good furniture. The Rotary Club of Manzini donated chairs, desks and office furniture

MEET THE PUPILS BEFORE AND AFTER THE DONATION



THE COMMUNITY

The school is in the rural areas under the Mtfongwaneni Inkhundla. A large percentage of the parents are unemployed. Those who are employed take their children to school in the urban areas. This has resulted in slow progress for the school. Although its in the rural areas the school has clean running water and electricity. Parents are actively involved in building the school as they come to assist in the construction of any school structure. This saves on the construction costs.

THE ROAD LEADING TO THE SCHOOL



VULNERABLE AND NEEDY CHILDREN

The school has a number of 15 children who are vulnerable. The pupils have both unemployed children. Such children wear torn uniform to school and come barefooted.



CHILD HEADED FAMILIES

The school has two (2) homesteads that are headed by children. These children lost both of their parents.

FEEDING SCHEME

The government supplies food for the learners, which at times is the only meal for the day for some. It is the duty of the school to make sure that the food supply doesn't run out at the school. Even when the government supply has run out, the school will try to buy the food to keep the learners at school. The school uses a classroom to store the food. The school has started its agricultural project. They grow vegetables to give to the learners.



LIBRARY

Currently the school does not have a library. We store our reading books in the classrooms. This however is not a permanent and ideal solution as the people trample on the books and lean on the make shift shelves.



The Rotary Club donated a container to be converted into a library. A concrete foundation has been built by Rotary towards the library initiative.



Additional furniture was donated to be used in the Library once the container has been converted



ANOTHER LOAD !



SCHOOL CHALLENGES

PROPER FENCING

The fence is old and it has been trampled upon thus it is very weak. Livestock from neighbouring homes eat the vegetables in the garden and destroy the water tanks and school windows. A proper fence needs to be erected.

TEACHERS HOUSES

There is no proper accommodation for teachers in the school. Teachers share houses and to such an extreme that a two bedroom house is shared by three teachers. One teacher has to travel 25 km to school and back every day. There is a dire need for proper accommodation in the school.

TECHNOLOGY

The school is very behind on technology. It has one computer with no internet access. It is for typing test and then printed in town. This is an essential for a 21 Century child.

With all the challenges they are faced with they still strive to learn and still can put a happy face!!!



AND THINK OF A WAY FORWARD

