

Policy Statement:

Strategies:

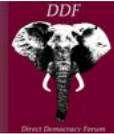
- As a general education policy, the **Direct Democracy Forum (DDF)** will be looking both nationally and internationally at systems and processes that work best, and will adopt those strategies it believes will work best for SA's beleaguered education system, and, importantly, for its students.
- The **DDF** will put well qualified educators in every classroom in the country, from pre-school to secondary school, and instill in each and every teacher a teaching ethic that exceeds mere classroom attendance and drawing a salary at the end of each month.
- We want teachers to become cherished members of the societies they serve, who are well educated, good educators, highly motivated and well rewarded. The implementation of **TEAL** as a tax strategy will provide the necessary funds for that ambition.
- The **DDF** will develop a learning ethic amongst students. We will resource all classrooms adequately, tolerate no violence or misbehavior in the classrooms and school yards, and insist on absolute security and respect for teachers and fellow students.
- Students who are unwilling to learn and are unable to pass annual promotion examinations will be held back to repeat the year they failed in. They will be held accountable for their performance.
- Students who prove they cannot be accommodated in the general student population will, after appropriate psychological assessment, be accommodated in special needs units either in their own school or in a school within their community.
- The emphasis will be to address the needs of these students and give them the special care required for them to complete their education and be reintegrated into the general education population as best as can be done and as soon as is possible.

For tertiary education the DDF will:

- Un-bundle the bundling of technicons with universities.
- Un-bundle some of the university mergers (basically reinstate the pre bundling university profiles) and give universities much greater freedom in defining their academic, social and cultural profiles.
- Engage the educators of the land in designing as an adjunct to existing systems of university entry, a more graduated advancement from high schools to technical colleges through to university entry, for students who qualify, so as to provide an alternate and much more integrated process of advancement through the system than the system currently provides. This will not supersede nor replace the present system. Merely add to it.

Funding:

- The **DDF** will ensure that every student who wishes to and qualifies to attend university or technicons will be financially enabled to do so. This will probably involve post-graduate service contracts by way of pay-backs for financial support of graduate and post graduate studies.



Policy Statement:

Pre-Primary Schooling:

- The **DDF** believe that quality education begins in Early Education. To this end DDF will;
 - introduce universal access to early education
 - Ensure that care providers in early education centers are qualified professionals
 - Fund this through the application of **TEAL**.

Further Education and Training:

- As part of the **DDF's** contention that every person in the country should have the right to be educated and trained and be fit for employment,
 - the **DDF** will embark on a major drive to train and educate every unemployed person in the country.
 - The **DDF** are prepared to pledge the cost of training and the cost of living for every person engaged in the program, at the state's cost.
- The **DDF's** contention is that it is far better to pay for the cost of making our population skilled and employable than it is to pay for the cost of their welfare for the rest of their lives.

Integrated Policies:

- The **DDF** will also merge these new-found skills in the employment market to create much needed housing and infrastructure and communities within which South African citizens can work, live and play with dignity and pride.

Conclusion:

- The **DDF** wish they could turn back the clock and undo all the damage that has been done but regrettably that is not possible. Application of DDF education policy will come as a shock to many who have never been asked to do even the most simple things. They will be asked to do things that are much more than simple in order to advance. Hopefully they will understand why they are now expected to perform. To those who have already passed through the system, we can only do our best to make up for the shortfalls in their education through further education and training projects.
- The **DDF** want education to be the most sought after profession in the land and want a Matriculation Certificate that will be accepted without question for entry to tertiary education systems and entry to the work place.

This is the bare bones of **DDF** intentions which we will develop into strong policy, in cooperation with educators and educational institutes nation-wide.