



LETTER TO THE PRINCIPAL

17 March 2013

Dear Mam/Sir

My name is Diviah Govender and I am a third year Masters in Education student at the University of the Witwatersrand.

I am presently engaged in completing my Research Report in partial fulfilment of the Masters in Education degree. The title of my research is *The Development of Teacher Leadership. A case study in an urban secondary school*. My research aims to explore how teacher leadership is conceptualised by staff and the School Management Team. In addition, the focus is on how this understanding of teacher leadership impacts on the development, implementation and evaluation of teacher leadership programmes in schools.

My research is a qualitative study and requires participants to complete a questionnaire. Ten participants will be invited to participate in a 45 – 60 minute interview. Participation in the completion of the questionnaire and the interview is voluntary. The reason why I have chosen your school is that for the first time since opening this school has been classified as an underperforming school. In addition, issues around leadership have shown that the development of teacher leadership can contribute to school improvement. As such, I would like my research findings to be used for the benefit of the school, staff and learners. This letter is to request your permission to conduct my research at your school.

The research participants will not be advantaged or disadvantaged in any way. They will be reassured that they can withdraw their permission at any time during this project without any penalty. There are no foreseeable risks in participating in this study. The participants will not be paid for this study.

As participation in this project requires honest and sincere responses all the information provided will be treated with confidentiality. The names of the research participants and identity of the school will be kept confidential at all times and in all academic writing about the study. Your individual privacy will

also be maintained in all published and written data resulting from the study. All research data will be destroyed within 3-5 years after completion of the project.

Please let me know if you require any further information. I look forward to your response as soon as is convenient.

Yours sincerely,

DIVIAH GOVENDER

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