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TO: PRINCIPALS OF SCHOOLS WITH GRADE 12
FROM: (A) DIRECTOR: ASSESSMENT & EXAMINATIONS
P. M. EDLEY (MRS)
SUBJECT: ERRORS IN NSC GRADE 12 TRIAL EXAMINATION:
MATHEMATICS PAPER 1
DATE: 29 AUGUST 2012

BACKGROUND

The Provincially set NSC Grade 12 Trial paper for Mathematics Paper 1 was written on Monday 27 August 2012. Due to a technical error in converting the paper from MS Word format to PDF, 10 errors occurred in the paper.

APOLOGY

The Directorate of Assessment and Examinations wishes to apologise to learners who wrote the Mathematics Question Paper for the errors and the confusion which would have resulted from them.

DISCUSSION

It must be noted that only 2 of these errors can be classified as setting and moderation errors. In question 1.1.1, the letter "a" was used in place of x. In question 9.4 "principle" was misspelt as principal.

The remaining 8 errors can be ascribed to the conversion of the MS Word document into a PDF format, which resulted in some Mathematical signs being compromised in the process.

A temporary lapse in the quality assurance system at the point in time has been identified and the necessary corrective measures have been taken to ensure that this does not happen again.

MARKING GUIDELINE

A decision has been taken to mark the question paper out of 120 marks and not 150 marks as indicated in the marking memorandum.

This is the breakdown of the 30 marks affected by errors.

QUESTION	ERROR	MARK ALLOCATION
1.1.1	A instead of x	4
1.1.2	Square root sign omitted	5
1.3	Brackets omitted	5
1.4	Square root sign omitted	2
4.2	Brackets omitted (4+ 1 +3)	8
9.3	Brackets omitted	2
9.4	Brackets omitted	4
TOTAL MARKS		30

CONVERSION OF MARKS OUT OF 120 TO A MARK OUT OF 150

(Mark obtained: 120 X150) = Final mark

Example: 75/120 x150=94

CONCLUSION

The contents of this memorandum must be drawn to the attention of the affected subject teachers and learners as a matter of urgency.

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