

# Tin classes too hot for Matric exams

21 Nov 2012 | Alfred Moselakgomo |

FRUSTRATED pupils at a Mpumalanga high school have told of how they struggle to concentrate in their stifling hot temporary zozo classrooms.



**HOT AND BOTHERED** : Grade 12 pupils at Seabe High School write one of their matric exam papers in their sweltering corrugated iron classroom yesterday.

Photo: Bafana Mahlangu The corrugated iron structures at Seabe High School at Seabe village were erected early this year as "temporary classrooms"- five years after their main school was destroyed by a freak storm in 2007.

Now pupils at the school say their classrooms are just too hot, especially this season as there is no fan or air conditioner. Until this year, teachers and pupils at the school were forced to teach in the badly damaged school but were forced out when the building became increasingly dangerous for them. The school, which consists of 12 classrooms, has 374 pupils and 12 teachers.

"It's summer and we are not able to listen to the teacher in this scorching heat," a Grade 12 pupil, Lehlohonolo Modise, who had just finished writing yesterday, said. A teacher said their main school was damaged in 2007 and the provincial education department erected the shack about 3km away. "We informed authorities and they promised the new school would be built soon. This situation is badly affecting us, yet we are expected to do well at the end of the year," another Grade 12 pupil, Kutlwano Mainela, said.

To make matters worse, 10 computers valued at R20,000 were stolen from the school last weekend. Five months ago, Premier David Mabuza officially opened seven state-of-the-art schools in the neighbouring villages of Lefiso, Marapyane and Pankop. Education MEC Regina Mhaule announced at the time that the schools had cost the provincial government a combined total of R55-million.

Department spokesman Gerald Sambo said yesterday that the school was presently the list of projects to be implemented in this financial year. Consultants had been appointed and the project was in the planning and design stage.