



FEEDBACK REPORT: EASTERN HILLS ACADEMY

Period: January 2026 – August 2026

Date of Report: 14 August 2026

1. Executive Summary

Eastern Hills Academy experienced a remarkable and successful launch in 2026. Since opening our doors in January, we have more than doubled our initial enrolment, strengthened our teaching staff and established a robust academic and extracurricular framework. We are deeply grateful to our community and corporate partners for their support, which has been instrumental in turning our vision of quality and accessible education into a reality.

2. Growth and Enrolment

The academy has seen significant growth in its inaugural year, demonstrating the community's trust and need for our services.

- **Learner Enrolment:** Started with **51 learners** in January; we are proud to now serve **88 learners** and projected to end the year on 100 learners, from Grade RR through Grade 9.
- **Staffing:** To maintain our commitment to quality, our team has grown from 10 to **11 dedicated teachers** and a **Teacher Assistant**, ensuring individualised attention and support for every learner.

3. Academic Innovation & Infrastructure

We have focused on providing a curriculum that is both rigorous and relevant to the 21st century.

- **Academic Support:** We have successfully introduced a **dedicated after-school homework assistance programme** for both our Foundation Phase and Intersen Phase learners, ensuring that no child is left behind.
- **Technology Integration:** A significant milestone was the installation of a **10-PC computer room**. This facility allows learners from Grade RR upward to be introduced to essential digital skills, **coding and robotics**, equipping them with future-ready competencies.



4. Extracurricular Excellence

Recognising the importance of holistic development, we have launched a diverse range of sporting and cultural activities to foster teamwork, discipline and confidence:

- **Sports:** Netball, Soccer, Cross Country and Mountain Biking (MTB).
- **Cultural & Academic:** Chess and Public Speaking.

We are also proud to announce our participation in the upcoming **Laerskool Burgersfort athletics meeting** next year, which marks our first, formal entry into the inter-school sports arena.

5. Compliance and Accreditation

We are pleased to report that we have received our official **registration letter from the Mpumalanga Department of Education**. With this foundational step complete, we are now proceeding with our applications for **accreditation at Umalusi and SACAI**, ensuring our academic credentials are recognised nationally.

6. Community & Stakeholder Impact

The response from the community has been overwhelming and humbling. We are providing quality education to the children of:

- **45 parents** working at our local mines,
- **11 parents** from government institutions,
- Local business owners,
- Households in Lydenburg, Steelpoort, Burgersfort and the surrounding areas.

This diverse mix highlights Eastern Hills Academy as a central pillar of the community.



7. Special Acknowledgement of Corporate Partnership

We extend our deepest gratitude to **Northam Booyensdal** for their unwavering support.

- Specifically, we thank **Mr. Zacharia Tsotetsi** and **Mr. Otto van Heerden** for availing the site at Berg Street for us to rent, allowing us to open in January.
- Their assistance went beyond providing a location; they were instrumental in helping us erect our classes and ensuring that we could start teaching from day one.

This partnership is a shining example of how collaboration between corporate entities, developers and educational institutions can work to the direct benefit of our children - the future of our beautiful country.

8. Looking Forward

We are enthusiastic about the future and the continued growth of Eastern Hills Academy.

- **Open Day:** We are eagerly anticipating our **Open Day on Saturday, 22 August 2026**, where we will showcase our achievements to the broader community.
- **Future Growth:** We are already preparing for the **2027 academic year**, which will mark an historic milestone as we introduce our first **FET Phase (Grade 10)** group.

9. Word of Appreciation

None of this remarkable progress would have been possible without the unwavering dedication of our teaching and support staff. We extend our deepest gratitude to them, whose passion, patience and professionalism have created a nurturing and stimulating environment for every learner. From managing a doubling of enrolment to delivering a forward-thinking curriculum and after-school support, their commitment has been the bedrock of our success. They have not only taught but have inspired and we are profoundly grateful for their belief in our shared vision.



Above all, we thank our parents and guardians for entrusting us with the education of their children. Your faith in a new institution has been our greatest motivation and our most valuable endorsement. To our learners, we say: you are the heart of Eastern Hills Academy. Your energy, curiosity and enthusiasm have filled our classrooms and sports fields with life, proving that our school is a place where futures are built. Together, you have transformed a vision into a vibrant, thriving community and we are honoured to walk this journey with you.

We remain steadfast in our mission to be a beacon of educational excellence in the region.

Sincerely,
EASTERN HILLS ACADEMY
An Independent School of Academic Excellence
Lydenburg, Mpumalanga, South Africa

Guided by Integrity, Respect, Unity and Excellence