



14 July 2020

Dear valued Durban Girls' College Community

On the 3rd of July the Board of Governors unanimously elected Karen Jones as Chairman of the Board and Zoleka Skweyiya as Vice-Chairman of the Board. We would like to thank Mr Ken McIntosh for his twelve years of service and dedication to the Durban Girls' College Board and his valued contribution to the strength of leadership and ethical governance of our Board.

Karen Jones matriculated from Durban Girls' College in 1994, for nineteen years she worked for one of the leading fashion retailers in Southern Africa, Mr Price Group, as the Director of Resourcing and the Director Merchandise (Mr Price Apparel). Karen is a Strategist and leader who is passionate about retail and developing our youth in South Africa. Karen has worked with the MRP Foundation to develop the Jumpstart Manufacturing Programme and served on the Executive Committee of the South African Fashion Council. In 2018 she joined her husband to expand their family shipping business in Southern Africa. Karen is foremost a wife and mom, she has two children, a daughter in Grade 11 at Durban Girls' College and a son in Grade 6 at Clifton.

"I have a deep love for Durban Girls' College and for our community, the journey ahead for our School is filled with new possibilities, as we continue to learn and grow through these unprecedented times for our country and our world. May Durban Girls' College continue to be a leading independent Christian School that inspires all girls to reach their potential. A School of excellence, inclusivity, and innovation and a unique South African education that celebrates and loves the youth of South Africa. May Durban Girls' College become our home, our place of belonging and our School of choice for all future leaders of South Africa." Karen Jones

Zoleka Skweyiya who is also a Durban Girls' College Old Girl and matriculated in 1988, joined the Durban Girls' College board towards the end of last year and brings a diverse set of skills gained in different industries ranging from financial services locally and in the UK, the tourism industry and currently works in the apparel manufacturing, distribution and retail industry.

Having worked for some well-known organisations including Old Mutual, Nedbank, Citigroup SA, Sun International and now working at Jonsson Workwear, Zoleka has a broad understanding of governance structures and executive management interacts gained from her key roles in Corporate Affairs, Stakeholder Management, Strategy and Communications.

"Durban Girls' College identified me as a leader long before I knew my potential, during the mid-1980s a painful period in our country's history I achieved coveted accolades, earned on merit while being oblivious to their significance in my personal growth and in the history of our school at that time. I became a prefect, a house captain, played first team in both Hockey and Netball and captained the 1st team hockey squad. I share this particularly so that young girls that come from different cultural backgrounds are encouraged and hopefully inspired to continually show up, be present, and actively participate in all the spaces where they have the ability to develop their natural talents while appreciating that their differences when harnessed effectively are a strength to the school community and contribute meaningfully to the experiences of the girls that follow in their footsteps." Zoleka Skweyiya

Founded in 1877

Zoleka added "My ultimate wish is to be associated with a school of excellence, that offers world-class education, is inclusive and socially aware, relevant, innovative and is conscientiously building a sustainable ethical educational brand."

May you and your families keep safe, protected and loved over these unprecedented times.

God Bless our School and protect our community,

Karen Jones
Chairman Board of Governors

Zoleka Skweyiya
Vice-Chairman Board of Governors