



NEWSLETTER

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Membership fees for 2025:

Subscription fees and Webinar rates for 2025.

School Annual Membership fee:

R2250.00 and entitles 6 teachers to join the webinars and seminar at the member rate thereafter non-member rates apply.

Individual Annual Membership fee:

R330.00 and entitles you to join all events at the member rate.

Webinar fees for non-members:

R310.00 per webinar

5% of all bookings will be donated to an Outreach School, Kings School Muldersdrift

Schools/individuals who are in need, please reach out to SAALED and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Please liaise with your school and make payment as soon as possible.

BANK DETAILS:

S A ASSOC FOR LEARNING

First National Bank

Account No: 62046846020

Branch code: 250655

Please ensure that your name/school's name appears on any deposit notification.

Dear SAALED Members and Friends,

As we transition from June into July, we are reminded of the importance of taking time to pause and reflect, even amidst the busyness of our professional and personal lives.

This edition brings together updates, resources and opportunities designed to support and strengthen our collective commitment to inclusive education. We hope these insights will inspire you as we continue working towards environments where every learner is valued and supported.

Here's to another month of learning, growing, and making a meaningful difference.

Upcoming Webinar: Inclusivity and Positivity in Schools


Join us for a dynamic and practical session with Sanele Majola, who will guide us through creating a school environment that is genuinely inclusive and uplifting. Discover how to cultivate a culture of empathy, respect, and acceptance, where every learner feels seen, heard, and empowered. Explore how these inclusive practices can transform academic success, nurture emotional health, and build positive, authentic relationships throughout the school community.

To make a booking:



SAALED WEBINAR- PRESENTED BY SANELE MAJOLA

Inclusivity and Positivity in Schools




Sanele Majola
Headmaster,
St Sithians Boys' Preparatory

Join us for an inspiring, practical session exploring how to create a truly inclusive and positive school environment where every learner feels valued, respected, and supported. Discover how to build a school culture rooted in empathy, understanding, and acceptance — and why this is the key to boosting academic outcomes, emotional well-being, and healthy social interactions.

Thursday,
24 July 2025 | 18:00

SAALED Members: R 210
Non-members : R 310

visit our website to book:
saaled.org.za



Webinar Review: Challenging the Myths Around Referrals

Our recent webinar with Educational Psychologists, Gillian Ilsley and Amy-Leigh Segeren, was a resounding success. Participants praised the presenters for sharing relevant, insightful and thought-provoking perspectives on the referral process. Many educational professionals found the discussion deeply meaningful, gaining not only a renewed understanding of the importance of early intervention, but also practical tips and actionable strategies to apply in their own contexts.

It was a powerful reminder that referrals are not a sign of failure, but a proactive step toward unlocking each learner's full potential.



Annual SAALED Seminar and Networking Event – Embracing Neurodiversity in the Mainstream Classroom.

Our recent SAALED Seminar was met with applause! The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with participants praising the engaging and insightful content. We had fantastic opportunities for networking and excellent support from our vendors, making the day even more meaningful.

Here are some event highlights:

Session 1: Frances Kaplan- Neurodivergent Minds Experiencing the World

Frances Kaplan presented an insightful, inspiring session challenging deficit-based views and highlighting compassionate frameworks like Intense World and Monotropism. Participants valued her practical, neurodiversity-affirming strategies to build flexible, respectful classrooms that celebrate — not “fix” — neurodivergent learners.



Session 2: Megan Trickey- Creating Safe Harbours: Building Hope-Filled, Solution-Focused Inclusive Schools Through Collaboration and Reflective Practice

Megan offered a thoughtful, hope-driven perspective on rising learner support needs and teacher burnout post-Covid. Drawing from her mainstream school experience, she shared how partnerships, solution-focused thinking, and reflective collaboration helped build resilience and inclusion for neurodivergent learners. Participants left inspired to restore belonging and purpose in their own school communities.



Session 3: Kelly Eyre- Beyond the Buzzword- Real Inclusion for Children and Educators

Kelly delivered a deeply personal, powerful session on authentic inclusion, sharing lived insights as an autistic educator and neurodivergent parent. Her honest reflections highlighted the diversity within the spectrum and the need to move beyond one-size-fits-all thinking. Participants valued her practical, strength-based strategies to create truly supportive, inclusive environments where everyone can thrive.



Event Highlights and Prize Winners

We are thrilled to acknowledge our generous sponsors who provided fabulous prizes for our lucky draw. Here are the winners:

Aromadough- Sponsored a gift to the value R300



Prize winner- Yolandi Sykes
St Peter's Boys Junior Preparatory

Label Pal- Sponsored a voucher to the value of R 500



Prize winner- Jolene Goldberg
Crawford International Sandton Pre-Primary

Play and Learning- sponsored an online voucher valued at R500



Prize winner- Linda Glass
St Stithians Junior Preparatory

Brain Bus- Sponsored educational games valued at R600



Prize-winner- Louise Flynn
Dainfern College.

EdShed- Sponsored a Bluetooth speaker valued at R1200



Prize winner- Ashton Nonhonho
St Stithians Girls' Preparatory

Depicta- Sponsored a voucher valued at R2000



Prize winner- Tania Williamson
De La Salle Holy Cross College

2Simple- Sponsored a Takealot voucher valued at R2000



Prize winner- Debbie Schmaus
Crawford International Sandton Preparatory

KCSA- Sponsored a Hokki Stool valued at R2500



Prize winner- Nikki Potgieter
Cedarwood School

Kami Maths- Sponsored a Kami teaching plan worth R3500



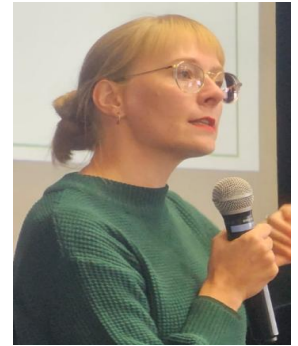
Prize winner- Prudence Matsega
Cedarwood School

Congratulations to all our vendors and winners! Your participation and support made this event so memorable and impactful!

We were quite excited to have delegates from Northside School in Botswana join us! Bev Dunlop-Jones and Taryn Patterson, from the school's Learning Support Team, had this to share:

'We gained so much, not only valuable knowledge from excellent presenters, but also meaningful connections and relationships that we truly value. It was inspiring to engage with so many passionate educators and we're excited about the potential for future collaboration.'

Here are more highlights captured during the day.



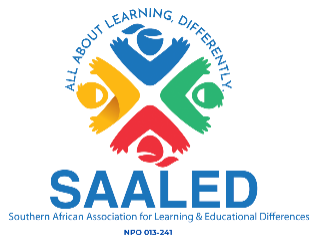
A heartfelt thank you for the generous book donations too— this support helps us turn pages *and* change lives!"

The Annual SAALED Seminar and Networking Event at Crawford International Sandton Preparatory was an enriching experience for all who attended. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our speakers and vendors for their wonderful contributions. Your commitment to professional development and to enhancing the educational experiences of our students is truly commendable.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our hosts at Crawford International Sandton. A special word of thanks goes to Ryan Haigh (Principal of the Preparatory School) and Lucinda Pinto (Principal of the Pre-Primary) for their warm hospitality and generous support, which helped make this event truly memorable. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making this seminar a vibrant and empowering experience!

SAALED's AGM and Board Members for 2025 & 2026

During the seminar, we also held our Annual General Meeting and election of our board members. We are pleased to announce the election of the following individuals to the SAALED board:



Jennifer Cosslett
Michelle Decker
Ruan Fourie
Shirley Gray
Shannon Jacobs
Pearl Makhene
Joe Pillay
Lucinda Pinto
Storm Pollard
Lerato Shuping

Chaland van Zyl continues in her role on our board as a co-opted member. We look forward to the contributions of our board to the growth and success of SAALED.

Our upcoming events:

- **Inclusivity and Positivity at Schools** – Creating inclusive environments that promote positivity and acceptance for all learners. 🧑🏫🧑🏻
- **Teacher Support & Leadership** – Equipping educators with leadership skills and strategies for effective team collaboration. 🏠📚
- **Using Tech and AI in the Classroom** – Exploring innovative ways to integrate technology and AI to enhance teaching and learning experiences. 📄💻

We look forward to seeing all our members at our next webinar, where we can keep sharing ideas, celebrating diversity and strengthening our commitment to inclusive education. Together, we are creating learning spaces where every child — and every educator — can thrive. Thank you for being part of this inspiring journey with us. We hope to see you soon!

With heartfelt appreciation,
Joe Pillay
Chairperson, SAALED

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