

## Bouwe van der Eems (ZA)

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**From:** Bouwe van der Eems [bouwe.vandereems@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** 22 Junie 2011 07:09 PM  
**To:** 'northside@caxton.co.za'  
**Cc:** 'association-for-homeschooling-comment@googlegroups.com'  
**Subject:** Response to "Do our schools pass the test?" by Association for Homeschooling

Dear Editor

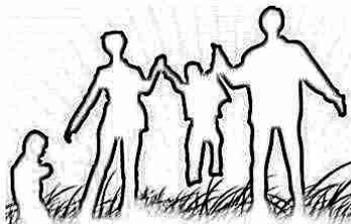
The Roodepoort Northsider of 17 June 2011 published an article titled : "*Do our schools pass the test?*"

The article opens with the following statement : "*Every parent who invests in their child's education certainly wants to be assured that the facility they attend offers the most appropriate curriculum and adheres to the correct standards and procedures.*"

Everybody should agree with the reporter if "*most appropriate curriculum*" means the curriculum that is most appropriate for each learner, because the constitution requires that the child's best interests are of paramount importance in matters concerning the child. Every learner is unique and there is not a single curriculum that is appropriate for all learners. One curriculum is appropriate for one learner but not for another. That is why many homeschooling families use different curriculums for different children. That is why small schools would select a curriculum the appropriate for their learners. One would therefore expect that the reporter would be positive about the variety of curriculums used by private schools. However this is not the case. She is concerned about the fact that the curriculums used in private schools are not registered by Umalusi. To this reporter, the "*most appropriate curriculum*" means the single curriculum that is approved by the state.

Given that "*outcomes based*" curriculum prescribed by the state is generally regarded as a cause of the failure of the educational system in South Africa, it does not make sense to require private schools to follow the same curriculum.

Regards



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