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5th Newsletter



AGDS News

At the end of 2025, the AGDS resolved to further strengthen its presence in kindergartens and therefore actively introduced itself at various parents' evenings.

Numerous institutions were visited, informational materials were distributed, and the support services offered by the AGDS — such as professional development opportunities and networking activities — were presented. Overall, parental interest was high, although it became apparent that the proportion of German-speaking families is declining in some areas.

In addition, the AGDS was represented at various events, including annual general meetings and the Career Fair at the DHPS, where programmes such as “Namibia2Germany” attracted considerable interest.

In this context, the importance of recognised German language diplomas for vocational training and study opportunities in Germany was once again emphasised.

AGDS Board Meetings – January to June 2026

At the AGDS Board Meeting held on 7 March 2026 in Grootfontein, discussions focused primarily on the further development of projects, the financial situation, and the organisation’s strategic direction.

In addition to positive feedback on recent events and a stable budget position, it became clear that new funding models — particularly for the Dieter-Esslinger-Pädagogiktagung — will need to be explored in the long term.

The Board also engaged in extensive discussions regarding new admission guidelines for member schools, with the aim of further strengthening quality, commitment, and active participation within the network.

Furthermore, topics such as language promotion, networking, and the importance of official language diplomas for vocational training and higher education were highlighted.

School Enrolment 2026 – Welcome to the School Community!

With great joy, many children celebrated their first day of school in the German school stream in 2026. Across the various schools, numerous new first graders were warmly welcomed: Privatschule Swakopmund (PSS) welcomed 22 children, Privatschule Otjiwarongo (PSO) welcomed 9 children, Privatschule Otavi enrolled 1 child, the DHPS started the school year with a total of 87 first graders, and 5 children were welcomed in Privatschule Grootfontein.

The Arbeits- und Fördergemeinschaft Deutscher Schulvereine in Namibia (AGDS) extends its heartfelt congratulations to all children starting school on reaching this important milestone. We wish you a wonderful start to this new chapter of your lives, many exciting discoveries, joy in learning, and countless memorable experiences along your educational journey.











Workshop on Fostering Reading Skills at the DHPS

On 14 February 2026, the DHPS hosted a highly successful workshop on the topic of reading aloud and the promotion of literacy skills in preschool and primary school children. More than 50 participants — including early childhood educators, teachers, and students from various educational institutions across Namibia — attended the training with great interest.

Under the expert guidance of Christine Wörsching, participants received valuable insights and practical ideas for their educational work. Particularly encouraging was the generous donation of books from Germany: numerous Kamishibai storytelling card sets and children's books were made available to the DHPS and other participating institutions.

Thanks to the support of many dedicated partners, the event was successfully implemented. The Goethe-Institut funded the speaker’s honorarium, while the AGDS covered the material costs.
The workshop impressively demonstrated how collaboration and commitment can sustainably strengthen children's literacy development. Heartfelt thanks go to everyone involved for their valuable contribution to the success of this inspiring event.



Family Festival – Kindergarten Netzwerk

On Saturday, 14 March 2026, the second Family Festival of the Kindergarten Netzwerk Namibia took place at Hooves & Gardens – a joyful and successful event for the whole family.

Numerous kindergartens and schools dedicated to promoting the German language participated alongside the Arbeits- und Fördergemeinschaft der Deutschen Schulvereine in Namibia (AGDS), the Goethe-Institut Namibia, and the University of Namibia, offering a diverse programme for young and old alike.

Visitors were welcomed at the AGDS information stand upon entering the venue, while many children enjoyed expressing their creativity in the colouring competition nearby. Throughout the festival grounds, guests could explore a variety of interactive activity stations. From puppet theatre, tin-can throwing, darts, and skill games to face painting, storytelling sessions, and interactive programmes, there was something for everyone.

The participating institutions also contributed with great enthusiasm to create a colourful and engaging experience. These included Bärchenhöhle with a puppet theatre, Waldorf Kindergarten with a feather flight track, Windhoek Gymnasium with tin-can throwing, Windhoek Kinderhaus with darts, and Irmis Kinderecke with creative activities centred around “Elmar.” The DHPS Kinder-Campus delighted children with face painting and games, while the University of Namibia (UNAM) offered storytelling sessions. Kammis Kinderwelt invited children to match animal tracks, and the Goethe-Institut provided an interactive programme. A special highlight for many children were the pony rides.





Familienfest - Kindergarten Netzwerk

The dedicated team at Hooves & Gardens ensured that guests were well catered for throughout the day. Another highlight was the live coverage by Hitradio Namibia, who broadcasted directly from the event venue from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

A heartfelt thank-you goes to all sponsors, supporters, and benefactors who made this festival possible. Generous prizes and vouchers for the coloring competition were donated by numerous companies, bringing bright smiles to the faces of the young winners.

The proceeds from the entrance fees will, among other things, support the professional development and training of educational staff at all institutions affiliated with the Kindergarten Netzwerk, thereby making a valuable contribution to the quality of early childhood education in Namibia.













Dieter-Esslinger-Pädagogiktagung 2026

From 17 to 19 April 2026, the Dieter-Esslinger-Pädagogiktagung (DEPT) once again took place in Otjiwarongo – a long-standing professional development conference that has brought together educators from across Namibia since the 1980s. Around 100 participants from kindergartens, schools, universities, and educational institutions gathered at the C'est Si Bon Hotel to exchange ideas, gain new insights, and jointly shape the future of education.

The conference was opened by representatives of the AGDS, the UNAM, the Goethe-Institute, and the Mopane Fund. The opening remarks already highlighted the diversity and intergenerational nature of Namibia's educational landscape today.

The focus of this year's DEPT was on practical workshops and teacher well-being. Dr. Manfred Janik opened the conference with his presentation, "With Heart and Boundaries: Staying Healthy in the Teaching Profession," demonstrating impressively the importance of self-care and setting personal boundaries in the often-demanding reality of school life. His practical examples prompted both thoughtful reflection and moments of laughter.

Participants were able to choose from a wide range of workshops, covering topics from early childhood development and playful learning methods to inclusion, learning barriers, parental involvement, active learning, and language promotion. The strong practical focus was particularly appreciated, as many ideas and materials could be directly applied in participants' own classrooms and educational settings. Throughout the conference, it became evident how important creative approaches, collaboration, and consideration of individual learning needs are.

Sunday's program also focused on innovative teaching methods and language promotion. Workshops on differentiated instruction, creative German as a Foreign Language (DaF) methods, and holistic language development provided participants with valuable inspiration for their daily professional practice.

DEPT 2026 once again demonstrated the immense value of professional exchange and continuous learning for Namibia's educational landscape. Our heartfelt thanks go to all presenters, organizers, and volunteers whose dedication made this inspiring event possible. Together, we strengthen the quality of German-language education in Namibia – today and in the future.



AGDS and Hitradio Namibia





When commitment becomes audible, Hitradio Namibia is never far away. With great enthusiasm and dedication, the station supports the work of the AGDS and brings our topics directly to people across the country.

Together, we have been able to set important impulses over the past months: from campaigns highlighting the importance of AGDS membership to insightful discussions on school qualifications and tertiary education pathways in Namibia, as well as engaging features on the Kindergarten Netzwerk.

A particular highlight was the Family Festival at Hooves & Gardens – a day filled with joy, encounters, and the bright smiles of children. In a dedicated feature, Hitradio Namibia looked back on the event and captured some of its most memorable moments and voices.

The discussions on educational pathways in Namibia and the importance of the German language further demonstrated how vital awareness, exchange, and collective commitment are.
This partnership makes visible what unites us: a shared passion for language, education, and community. For this, we extend our heartfelt thanks.