

Departmental Budget Speech

2019 / 20



education

Lefapha la Thuto la Bokone Bophirima
Noord-Wes Onderwys Departement
North West Education Department
NORTH WEST PROVINCE



NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NORTH WEST PROVINCE

BUDGET SPEECH FOR THE 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR



**Honourable Mmaphefo Lucy Matsemela
(MPL)**

DELIVERED BY THE MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE MMAPHEFO LUCY MATSEMELA

MEC FOR NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THE NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

ON 18 JULY 2019

Honourable Speaker

Honourable Deputy Speaker

Chair of Chairs

Honourable Premier Professor Tebogo Job Mokgoro

Honourable Members of the Executive Council

Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature

Leadership of my Political Home, the ANC

Chairperson of the House of Traditional Leaders Kgosi Mabe

Business Communities

Leadership of various Workers' Unions

Leadership of various School Governing Bodies

Administrator of the Department of Education

Head of Department of Education and her Senior Management

Leadership of various political parties

Leadership of Faith-Based structures

Principals of all Technical Schools

Principals of all Special Schools

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

DUMELANG BAGAETSHO!

PREAMBLE

Madam Speaker, I am delighted and deeply honoured to deliver the 2019/20 budget for the Department of Education. This is the first departmental budget under the African National Congress (ANC) - led sixth North West Provincial Administration.

This budget vote is presented at an opportune time when our country and the entire world celebrates the birthday of our former President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, affectionately known as Madiba. Let us be reminded that Madiba was a leader of the ANC.

Without necessarily over-praising Madiba, Madam Speaker, we can safely say he was and remains the finest son of the African soil. He dedicated his life to the struggle for the liberation of his people and the people of the world. His unmatched attributes of humility and compassion earned him the love and respect of the people of South Africa, Africa and the world.

In enhancing his enduring vision of a just world where all enjoy equal and democratic rights, we can, without any doubt, accept that as the present-day government we have a non-negotiable responsibility to create an environment of hope, confidence and a better future for all.

To this day, there is a semblance of order and stability in the department as evidenced by significant milestones achieved within few days of the sixth administration.

Madame Speaker, as the department we are extremely proud and need to make noise about the following achievements:

- Edward Mothibi from Magogoe village in Mahikeng won the 2019 Comrades Marathon.
- Limited school disruptions even in the context of sporadic service delivery protest that in most cases have nothing to do with education.
- Learners in our schools sat for their mid-year examinations without hindrances except isolated cases in Kagisano Molopo and Kraaipan.
- On 25-28 June 2019, our schools represented the province in the 2019 ABC Motsepe South African Schools Choral Eisteddfod (SASCE) in Randburg, where we obtained various top positions. Phatsima Secondary School obtained position 1 in the Folklore category. We are also proud that Reoleboge and Iteko Special schools obtained position 2 in different categories of Own Choice, whilst Ms MK Dube of Reoleboge Special School was crowned the Best Conductor on the day.
- I dare not fail to also mention our 18 year-old grade 11 aeronautical engineer Resego Moroka of Tiger Kloof Combined School in Dr. Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District who was part of the twenty learners who built an aircraft that flew successfully from Cape to Cairo, and back.
- The private public partnership between Rustenburg Hoërskool Tegniese and Samancor Chrome Limited is much appreciated. Grades 10, 11 and 12 are exposed to extra lessons and work experience which critical for future artisans.

- We continue to pride ourselves in the performance of our teachers. Today amongst us we have Solomon Mathebula, one of our best Maths teachers in the province. He and many others continue to simplify a subject that is historically perceived as challenging to our learners.
- I am humbled by the efforts shown by the parents of Boitekong Secondary School who, during my recent visit at the school apprehended a boy learner who had dagga in his possession and handed him over to the police.
- The Honourable President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa has adopted Boitekong Secondary School and he has already built two classroom blocks and a kitchen. We are excited by his gesture of goodwill!!!!

Thus far, the sector is also doing well in implementing the social justice principles of access, redress, equity and inclusivity. Nonetheless, we continue put concerted effort to improve on efficiency and quality.

The Resolutions of the 54th ANC National Conference which became summed up into the 2019-2014 Ten Point Priorities and Programmes for the Basic Education Sector enjoin us to do things differently when realising Outcome 1 of the NDP vision 2030.

Madam Speaker, it is, therefore, important to be innovative in our approach as we deliver on our mandate, and Albert Einstein shares the sentiment: **“The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, but expecting different results.”**

The Ten Point Priorities and Programmes for the Basic Education Sector can be enumerated as: **Reading, ECD: Migration of 0-4 years from Department of Social Development to Department of Basic Education, Three Stream Model of Basic Education, Incentivise and Promote the teaching profession, The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Operation Phakisa, Competencies and Skills for the changing world, Infrastructure, Learners with Special Education Needs and Quality, Efficiency and Decolonisation of the Basic Education sector.**

The above sector priorities and programmes as well as SONA and SOPA have become the cornerstone of the budget we are about to present.

INTRODUCTION

Madam Speaker, the Department of Education welcomes the allocated budget of R17 109 951 billion (Seventeen Billion, one Hundred and Nine Million and Nine Hundred and Fifty One Thousand Rand) for 2019/20. This represents an increase of R1. 069 billion and a growth of 6.7 per cent.

This increase affirms the categorisation of education as an apex priority. In the same vein, it confirms the unwavering determination of the ANC-led Sixth Administration to improve the quality of public education in the province.

2019/20 Education Budget Summary

PROGRAMME	2019/20 BUDGET ALLOCATION R'000	
Programme 1: Administration	R924 956	Nine Hundred and Twenty Four Million Nine Hundred and Fifty Six Thousand Rand
Programme 2: Public Ordinary Schools	R13 069 170	Thirteen Billion, Sixty Nine Million and Hundred and Seventy Twenty Thousand Rand
Programme 3: Independent School Subsidies	R33 148	Thirty Three Million and One Hundred and FortyEight Thousand Rand
Programme 4: Public Special School Education	R699 057	Six Hundred and Ninety Nine Million and Fifty Seven Thousand Rand
Programme 5: Early Childhood Development	R672 704	Six Hundred and Seventy Two Million Seven Hundred and Four Thousand Rand

Programme 6: Infrastructure Development	R904 712	Nine Hundred and Four Million, Seven Hundred and Twelve Thousand Rand
Programme 7: Examination and Education Related Services	R806 204	Eight Hundred and Six Million Two Hundred and Four Thousand Rand
TOTAL	R17 109 951 (seventeen billion, one hundred and nine million and nine hundred and fifty one thousand rand)	

Madam Speaker and Honourable Members, the services rendered by the department are categorised into seven programmes. The spending focus in this budget will go towards service delivery outputs as captured in the Annual Performance Plan of the department. The breakdown of allocations per programme for the 2019/20 financial year is as follows:

Programme 1:

Administration - R924 956 000 (Nine Hundred and Twenty Four Million, Nine Hundred and Fifty Six Thousand Rand).

The strategic goal of this programme is to ensure effective and efficient governance, management and financial support systems in the department. To that end, we have started in earnest to strengthen our internal control systems, risk management and governance and management services.

In tabling this budget today, we confirm that the allocation responds to the national and provincial priorities. The department seeks to improve efficient allocation of budgets in the interest of ensuring improved service delivery. The reduction in the equitable share for the province will not deter the department in ensuring that we deliver on our mandate using the available resources.

The unqualified audit outcomes over the past five years point to a department on an upward trajectory. The new administration will implement and improve systems towards a clean audit. Issues raised by the Auditor General will be closely monitored through implementation of the Post Audit Action Plan.

In the sixth administration, the department will fast track its key service delivery imperatives. One of the key interventions will be addressing the data integrity anomaly, which impacts negatively on planning, resource and budget allocation.

Honourable Members, in an effort to ensure credible data, we verify data through the Department of Home Affairs - currently stands at a 96% validity rate, we undertake learner head-count, we continuously build the capacity of relevant personnel, and we are participating in the national pilot project to modernise SA-SAMS.

In one of its endeavours to create job opportunities for the youth, the department will give young graduates internships to gain experience and acquire skills. In 2019/20, the department will host 50 new interns, supplementing the existing employment of 164 interns.

Through the ETDP-SETA, the department will fund 210 unemployed youth in training of End-User Computing. We will provide training to 700 office-based employees to enhance administrative, managerial and occupational competencies.

The department will continue to enhance sound and progressive working relationships with organised labour by engaging in meaningful consultation and information sharing in bargaining structures.

All managers and supervisors will resolve grievances within the prescribed period of 30 days in order to maintain labour peace, improve staff morale and productivity.

Honourable Members, we shall ensure that 90% of all received disciplinary cases are resolved within the prescriptive 90-day period.

The department is working together with the Auditor-General (SA), National and Provincial Treasury to clear the Irregular, Fruitless and Wasteful Expenditure emanating from previous financial years. Recently, the Department appointed an independent audit firm to assist with the investigation of irregular expenditure.

A cumulative irregular amount of R132 987 462.00 (one hundred and thirty two million, has been set for possible condonation. Internal resources are also being utilised to focus on Irregular, Fruitless and Wasteful Expenditure.

We continue to strengthen internal controls in Supply Chain Management and other areas in order to bring to an end chronic Irregular, Unauthorised, Fruitless and Wasteful Expenditure.

Programme 2:

Public Ordinary School Education - R13 069 170 000 (Thirteen Billion, Sixty Nine Million and Hundred and Seventy-Two Thousand Rand)

We are going to spend this allocation to intensify the efficient and quality implementation of the following seven sector Priorities and Programmes: Reading, ECD Migration, The Three Stream Model of Basic Education, Incentivise and promote the teaching profession, The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Operation Phakisa, Competencies and skills for the changing world, and Quality, efficiency and decolonisation of the Basic Education sector.

Reading with good speed and for comprehension from early grades is uppermost in the list of priorities for the basic education sector in the short to medium term.

Extant studies concur that weak learning foundations in the early grades, especially in literacy and numeracy, are amongst the major root causes of failure and drop-out rates towards the end of secondary schooling. Therefore, we are going to revolutionise reading through, among others, specific and deliberate interventions in the early grade.

We have allocated R8.6 million to the Library Services Unit to cumulatively supply library materials that include books, supplementary teaching and learning resources and reference materials to schools.

We are going to strengthen our partnership with the National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT), Early Grade Reading Study and universities to enhance the quality of our teachers in teaching reading; and to promote their status to teach learners skills and competencies for a changing world.

Madam Speaker, we must be cognisant of the fact that professional growth is both a responsibility as well as an entitlement. It is our responsibility as the department to provide all our teachers with opportunities for professional growth. Our teachers are in fact entitled to this as part of their conditions of service.

In support of the National Teacher Development Strategy and the NDP, the focus for 2019/20 will be on intensifying the utilisation of ICT in the classroom, improving management in schools as well as addressing the reading challenge in the lower grades.

Madam Speaker, in line with the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Operation Phakisa, the department will enhance ICT integration in teaching and learning by training 1200 teachers in all computerised schools as follows: Bojanala - 480, Dr Kenneth Kaunda - 240, Ngaka Modiri Molema - 240 and Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati - 240.

Teachers from the 100 schools participating in the Mathematics Science and Technology Services (MSTS) grant are trained with ICT skills to effectively use the tablets and laptops provided.

An amount of R8.5 million has been earmarked to ensure broadband connectivity at the identified public schools.

Madam Speaker, with effect from August 2019, the appointment of qualifying temporary teachers will be translated to permanent appointment.

To attract and retain qualified teachers in rural areas, rural incentives will be paid on monthly basis with effect from September 2019.

The compensation of employees budget continues to be under pressure, which escalates the current high vacancy rate. In spite of this, the department has currently advertised 829 School-Based promotional posts as well as 28 office-based posts, which include Senior Management posts.

The teaching profession will be incentivised and promoted through strengthening of the Teacher Appreciation Support Programme and National Teaching Awards.

The establishment and staffing of the Provincial Teacher Development Institute will be facilitated this financial year. This will assist us in addressing competencies and skills of our teachers in this changing world in terms of content knowledge and Teacher Appreciation Support Programme.

R 5.7 million of the equitable share funds has been allocated for Mathematics Science and Technology Services. This allocation will be used to provide laboratory science kits to 15 identified schools in the FET band, train teachers in the 555 primary schools supplied with Maths Labs on the use of manipulatives, train Grade 7 teachers on Natural Science and conduct Saturday Supplementary Maths classes for Grade 12 learners in deep rural small schools.

The Mathematics Science and Technology Services is also allocated a conditional grant of R 38 391 000.00 (Thirty Eight Million Three Hundred and Ninety One Thousand Rand) for which 100 schools (including 19 Technical Schools) in deep rural and disadvantaged communities. These schools are provided with ICT equipment, workshop machinery and tools, technology kits and consumables.

The grant is further intended for teacher and learner development programmes to enhance efficiency in the subject teaching and learning. It is envisaged that the provided devices will adequately equip learners with skills for the changing world in line with the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

A National Reading Coalition (NRC) was launched on the 15th February 2019 to coordinate all Reading interventions. Teachers in foundation and intermediate phases will be trained to teach reading through the Primary School Reading Improvement Programme. A budget of R8 Million will be set aside to ensure the implementation of the Early Grade Reading Study (EGRS) in the province.

For the current financial year, we have targeted 1098 teachers and 240 School Management Team members for training to teach and assess reading through the Primary School Reading Improvement Programme.

Furthermore, the allocation will be utilised for the establishment of Reading clubs in 70 primary schools in collaboration with Nali Bali, launching of the Book Flood in the Province and distribution of 120 guidelines to parents and caregivers on assisting their children with reading.

The department will spent R 1 644 480-00 (One Million Six Hundred and Forty Four Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty Rand) to train 1680 Language teachers on reading, content and methodology. In addition, we will also be training 1680 teachers on Numeracy/ Mathematics content and methodology.

In an attempt to further address competencies and skills for a changing world and the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the province is currently preparing training of the senior phase teachers for pilot of Coding and Robotics Curriculum for 100 schools in 2020.

The FET Band (Grades 10-12), will spend R 2, 4 million in training of all Departmental Heads in underperforming schools. Teachers in the following gateway and high enrolled subjects, namely, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Geography, Economics, Accounting and Life Sciences will be developed on content using specific subject diagnostic reports.

In line with the Three Steam Model, the department will in earnest implement curriculum rationalisation by establishing the following category of focus schools: Mathematics and Science, Commercial Schools, Technical Education, Agricultural Focus, Service and Arts Schools.

The department intends to establish two (2) Aviation Schools (Mafikeng and Mogwase using the Mmabatho and Pilanesberg airports, respectively, as curriculum support structures).

For the current financial year, a total amount of R 122 027 596.00 (One Hundred and Twenty Two Million Twenty Seven Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety Six Rand) has been allocated for the Learner Attainment Improvement Programme.

In April 2019, a total of R 12 197 676.00 (Twelve Million One Hundred and Ninety Seven Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy Six Rand) was used to intervene on 9358 progressed learners to bridge the content gap in subjects of challenge.

For Winter Camps, 24 923 (75.2%) of the total number of 33 125 of the 2019 Grade 12 learners attended the camps at the cost of R 55 841 376.00 (Fifty Five Million Eight Hundred and Forty One Thousand and Three Hundred and Seventy Six Rand).

For the Spring Camps and the final “Ngwana sejo wa tlhakanelwa” campaign, an allocation of R 53 988 544.00 (Fifty Three Million Nine Hundred and Eighty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Four Rand) will be used to support schools in ensuring enough study and revision programmes. Radio lessons will be broadcast to reach most learners for revision purposes.

For the 2019/20 financial year, a total of R 540 038 000.00 (Five Hundred and Forty Million and Thirty Eight Thousand Rand) is made available to procure and deliver LTSM to schools.

The LTSM priorities for this current financial year are Stationery for all grades in public ordinary schools, textbooks top-ups for all grades including Technical Subjects to address universal coverage and for schools to top up supplementary material for selected grades.

We note that our schools experience a shortage of furniture. In an effort to address this challenge, the department has put aside an amount of **R20 997 000.00** (Twenty Million and Nine Hundred and Ninety Seven Thousand Rand) to be utilised to procure new school furniture and to refurbish old school furniture.

During 2018/19 financial year, with an allocation of R 4 161 000 (Four Million One Hundred and Sixty One Thousand Rand), an extensive training was provided to 10 662 newly elected SGB members. Targeted capacity training for 835 SGBs on recruitment and selection 8 219 SGBs on policy development, financial management and parental involvement. Further training of SGBs will be rolled out in the future.

In line with prescripts of the NDP 2030, School Management Teams will be provided with continuous capacitation on curriculum management and coverage.

Special attention relating to SMT development will also focus on capacitating women in and into school leadership and management. Representative Council of Learners will continue to be trained on their leadership roles and responsibilities.

The department has embarked on the resuscitation of the Quality Learning and Teaching Campaign (QLTC) structures from school level up to the province. These structures are meant to bring into reality the delivery of quality learning and teaching through a collaborative effort among different stakeholders, government departments and civil society.

For the financial year 2019/20, QLTC has been allocated R 2,050 million (two million and fifty thousand rand). We will mobilise stakeholders and create awareness to communities on the social compact outreach programmes through this allocation.

In addition, we will hold Annual QLTC Awards to recognise and appreciate effective QLTC structures. To realise some of these goals, a Provincial QLTC Summit will be held in September 2019.

Violence in our schools cannot be left to continue unabated. As Premier Professor Tebogo Job Mokgoro announced in his State of the Province Address in June 2019, we have set aside R1 258 000 (One Million Two Hundred and Fifty Eight Thousand Rand) towards school safety programmes and awareness campaigns against societal ills that are bedevilling our schools.

In implementing the resolutions of 2018 Provincial School Safety Summit, the department will provide additional security services to vulnerable schools in quintiles 1 to 3, identified as hot-spot areas in conjunction with SAPS. The department is currently looking into cost effective and efficient model to provide safety and security in schools. A Provincial Big Walk with a view to creating awareness to protect teaching and learning in our schools will be hosted around September 2019.

Through the pro-poor National Schools Nutrition Programme, the department has allocated R481.859 million to provide meals based on the prescribed menu options to 736 284 learners in 1 308 quintiles 1-3 public ordinary schools and 24 identified special schools.

It is envisaged that the allocation will be used to create job opportunities for food handlers. Currently, about 4 485 food handlers are appointed to prepare meals for learners in the province. Money is transferred to schools to procure food for learners.

The department is excited to host the Nigerian Home-Grown Vegetable delegation to benchmark on our NSNP model on 23 July 2019.

For 2019/20 financial, R18 849 000 (Eighteen Million Eight Hundred and Forty Nine Million) has been allocated for HIV and AIDS Conditional Grant, as per the business plan and the grant framework. Allocation will be utilised for teacher training, advocacy for key pillars of HIV & AIDS, awareness campaigns, provision of Learner and Teacher Support Material and appointment of new Learner Support Agents in schools.

The department has allocated R3 million as part of its mandate to create job opportunities. We envision to appoint 70 Learner Support Agents to implement Care and Support programmes in rural schools, in order to prevent and mitigate learning barriers that have negative impact on enrolment, retention and performance of vulnerable learners.

For 2019/2020 financial year, the department has allocated R14, 9 million for provision of sanitary towels. The primary objective is to restore and protect the sanitary dignity of our girl learners. About 34 607 grades 8 to 12 girl learners in quintile 1 schools (including Farm Schools), from 146 Secondary Schools as well as 2 502 girl learners in special schools will benefit from the this project.

Programme 3:

Independent School Subsidies - R33 148 000 (Thirty Three Million One Hundred and Forty Eight Thousand Rand)

An amount of R33 148 000 (Thirty Three Million One Hundred and Forty Eight Thousand Rand) is allocated to 31 Independent Schools for 2019/2020 financial year. Transfers to these schools will be made quarterly, and regular monitoring will be conducted to ensure compliance with existing legislation.

The department will be conducting an audit of registered independent schools with the aim of ensuring that only legally registered schools exist.

Programme 4:

Public Special School Education - R699 057 000 (Six Hundred and Ninety-Nine Million and Fifty-Seven Thousand Rand)

For 2019/20 financial year, the department has set aside an amount of R R699 057 million (Six Hundred and Ninety-Nine Million and Fifty-Seven Thousand Rand).

An additional 16 Full Service Schools will be established. The appointment of professional support staff and non-professional support staff in Special Schools will be prioritised in the current financial year.

The budget will also be utilised for the provisioning of Assistive Devices, learner transport subsidy, as well as the provisioning of additional 06 vehicles to Special Schools.

For 2019/20, the Learners with Severe to Profound Intellectual Disabilities (LSPID) Grant of R16, 267 000.00 (Sixteen Million Two Hundred and Sixty Seven Million Rand) has been allocated to benefit Learners in 32 targeted care centres and 4 targeted Special Schools. The budget will be spent on employment and retention of inclusive education specialists, care centre support, capacity building of caregivers, teachers and officials and learning programmes and therapeutic interventions implementation.

Programme 5:

Early Childhood Development (ECD) - R672 704 000 (Six Hundred and Seventy Two Million Seven Hundred and Four Thousand)

Premier Tebogo Job Mokgoro announced the migration of Early Childhood Development (ECD) from the Departments of Social Development to Basic Education in his SOPA. To this end, the two departments, from national level, have started to develop work plans in order to drive the process smoothly.

This ECD Function Shift will see Social Development retaining children aged 0 – 3 and transferring the responsibility of those aged 4 - 5 to the Department of Education.

Madam Speaker, it is important to clarify the concurrent functions at this stage because the migration is not going to be lock, stock and barrel once-off affair. The function shift will be rolled out as soon as plans are finalised and relevant protocols are signed.

ECD programme is allocated R672 704 million (Six Hundred and Twenty Two Million, Seven Hundred and Four Thousand Rand) for providing resources to Grade R implementation in Public Schools, provisioning of educational toys to identified 540 public primary schools, Grade R LTSM, training of 1100 practitioners from Community-Based ECD centres and 105 Grade R teachers on National Curriculum Framework, Curriculum and Assessment Policy, respectively.

A budget of R 4 598 000-00 (Four Million Five Hundred and Ninety Eight Thousand), which is funded through EPWP grant assisted the department to create job opportunities for 181 classroom assistants. An amount of R14 687 000 (Fourteen Million Six Hundred and Eighty Seven Rand) has been set aside to subsidise 154 qualifying Community-Based ECD centres.

A budget of R35 000 000-00 (Thirty Five Million Rand) is allocated for Pre-Grade R implementation. This amount will be utilised for the completion of training for 900 ECD practitioners on NQF Level 4 Qualification in 2019/20 financial year.

A new cohort of 731 ECD practitioners are identified from Community-Based ECD centres to receive training in NQF Level 5 in this financial year including a monthly stipend.

Programme 6:

Infrastructure Development - R904 712 000 (Nine Hundred and Four Million and Seven Hundred and Twelve Thousand Rand)

We are fully aware of the infrastructure backlog faced by the department. We are working on a programme of eradicating inappropriate structures in our schools through an infrastructure programme entitled “infrastructure beyond sanitation”. This programme is mainly focused on attending to all infrastructural challenges faced by schools in our province.

The allocation for Programme 6 Infrastructure Development has declined from R1 004 996 000 (One Billion, Four Million, Nine Hundred And Ninety-Six Thousand Rand) of 2018/19 as result of Education Infrastructure grant allocation reduction owing to poor performance.

We are putting stringent systems in place to ensure that no cent will be lost again from our province to another province. Undergirding these measures, is the rigorous improvement of relationship of the department with implementing agents.

Madam Speaker, the department has been allocated a total budget of R904, 712 million to provide and improve the quality of school infrastructure in the province for the current financial year.

This is to ensure that all learners in the province have access to facilities that are conducive for the provisioning of quality teaching and learning.

We allocated a budget to get rid of pit latrines in 154 schools. Already, contractors for 86 schools are appointed and the remaining 68 are at procurement stage.

The following eight schools are completed and occupied:

Alabama Primary, Areaganeng Primary, Koster Primary, Mokgareng Senior Secondary, Mosikare Senior Secondary, Sedumedi Primary, Maiketso Primary and Shupu Primary School.

The following seven replacement schools are under construction: Boitekong Secondary, Kgabalatsane Primary, Koketso Primary, Noto Secondary, Phiri Secondary, Tlotlang Thuto Secondary and Tsoseletso Secondary School.

Two replacement hostels are budgeted for in this financial year: Coligny Special School and Moedwil Combined School.

The following seven new schools have been completed and are ready to be handed over: Kanana Primary, Lichtenburg High, Paardekraal Primary, Oukasie Primary, Kelebogile Secondary and Seraleng Primary School.

Construction for the following schools will be commencing in this financial year: Huhudi Primary and Thulare Secondary School.

Three new school hostels are budgeted for in this financial year: Lykso (already under construction), Rysmierbult Mega Farm School and Geysdorp Secondary School (at planning stage).

The following eleven schools are up for upgrades and additions and are due for completion in this financial year: Bosabosele Primary School, Botshelo Primary School, Laërskool Karlienpark, Laërskool Protea Park, Letlhakane Primary School, Modisakoma Primary School, Onkabetsethuto Secondary School, Rantebeng Primary, Setumo High School, Trotsville Primary School and Tselathuto Middle School.

The following six schools are under renovation: Gaseitsiwe Secondary, Nietverdiendt Primary, Othaile Primary, Setumo Sephetho Primary, Hoërskool Vryburg and Tlhabane Technical School.

We have budgeted for the close-up of 39 earthquake-damaged schools in Dr Kenneth Kaunda District in the current financial year.

38 storm-damaged schools have been budgeted for in this financial year. Contractors have already been appointed at eight of the schools and the remaining are at procurement stage.

EPWP Integrated grant will be used to pay stipends for personnel linked to specific schools to perform minor repairs such as plumbing, repairs of leakages, minor electricity repairs and painting maintenance.

To further strengthen safety and security at schools, budget has been made available for fencing at 87 schools in this financial year.

The department is in the process of filling posts with relevant built environment specialists. As an interim measure, the Programme Support Unit has been appointed to assist with the infrastructure programme management.

Through our infrastructure programme, we envisage the creation of 1600 job opportunities.

Programme 7:

Examination and Education Related Services - R806 204 000 (Eight Hundred and Six Million, Two Hundred and Four Thousand Rand).

We continue to uphold the quality of our education system by conducting fair, valid and credible examinations.

The Class of 2018 obtained 81.1% pass rate, which gave us an increase of 1.7% - Well done Team Education!

Our matric result target for the 2019 academic year is 85%. We intend to improve both in terms of quality and quantity in that we will increase the number of learners achieving Bachelors and Diploma pass, Mathematics, Physics and distinctions.

The department will intensify the administration, monitoring and moderation of School Based Assessment as well as the conduct and marking of Preparatory and National Senior Certificate (NSC).

In our endeavour to improve quality performance for our learners in all grades, we will continue to conduct quarterly analysis of results from grades 1 to 12 to track learner performance and intervene timeously.

Honourable members, in response to the clarion call of the President with regards to digitisation, we will pilot online question papers in targeted schools which already have appropriate gadgets, strengthen online registration starting with NSC and Senior Certificate (Part-Time candidates), and Electronic archiving of NSC examinations scripts.

In conclusion, let me extend warm words of appreciation to the following:

- The African National Congress for entrusting me with the responsibility as the executive authority for the Department of Education;
- My family - for their support and understanding when duty so often calls;
- The Administrator of the Department for his guidance and support;
- The Superintendent-General and the entire Team Education for their dedication;
- The Support Staff in the Office of the MEC;
- The School Governing Bodies;
- Sector Unions;
- The Almighty God who remains my Redeemer

I THANK YOU

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