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education

Department:
Education
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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As we tie our shoelaces to run the final lap of the Sixth Administration, we need to take in all the positives that mark this era. The highlight for me is the narrowing of the gap between no fee and fee-paying schools. It means that all the strategic interventions, sleepless nights and sacrifices of teachers, principals, School Governing Bodies, departmental officials are beginning to bear fruit, steadily so.

One has to look at the fact that our province is ranked No. 5 nationally in terms of fee paying schools' learner performance with only 8659 matriculants sitting for exams as compared to 34 486 at no fee paying and 678 at Independent schools. Nationally, our no fee paying and independent schools rank No.4.

No fee schools scored 77.7% translating to 26 794 matriculants passing their final examination, and the Independent schools came in with 95.5% with 627 learners succeeding. The fee paying schools scored 87.1% meaning 7 539 made it.

These figures show that teachers at no fee paying schools are working hard despite contextual challenges they face. In the same breath, it shows that the well-resourced fee paying schools are not performing as well as expected.

This steady progress calls to mind an African proverb which says: "Patience can cook a stone". It means obstacles can always be overcome with enough time and patience.

Gershwin Chuenyane
Director: Communication

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MESSAGE FROM THE MEC'S OFFICE

As we approach the new Financial Year we still remain committed and rejuvenated to deliver services to the public.

The South African Constitution in Chapter 2 under the Bill of Rights stipulates that every learner has a right to education. As custodians of education in the province, our primary responsibility is to ensure that learners receive education in a conducive learning environment.

Our primary focus this year is to ensure that the condition of all schools in the province is improved. The Infrastructure unit's mandate is to build new schools in areas of need and renovate old buildings to ensure learners attend school in a conducive environment. We are going to ensure that the budget allocated for this particular purpose is fully utilised. We will ensure no budget is returned.

Our department's approach is putting people first in everything we do. We started by requesting the public to inform us about existing problems in different schools.

During the reopening of schools I visited schools identified by the public. I witnessed challenges identified by our community. Together with the district management we committed ourselves to tackle those challenges.

I urged all education stakehold-

ers to stand up wherever they are to ensure our learners receive a better education. I am going to work together with the Educator Unions, School Governing Body associations, Faith Based Organisations, Private Sector, Student organisations and many other stakeholders, because



Education is a societal matter.

Having a teacher in front of every learner is our second main priority. Learners should never be in school without being taught. I have tasked our Human Resource unit to ensure that there is full teacher provisioning. This also applies to office based employees, filling of those positions is key.

School Safety is one of the important elements of our administration. We should ensure that all our schools are properly fenced to prevent intruders entering our school yards. Every school should have a school safety committee

which will evaluate safety of each school.

Hon. Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi
MEC for the Department of
Education

MESSAGE FROM THE HOD'S OFFICE

The matric performance of our Grade 12 learners of 2022 has indicated that even improving the performance does not necessarily mean the Province will move up the ladder. A conscious decision has to be taken to ensure the improvement of results is done at a much higher upward trajectory than just 1.6%. The fact that Kwa Zulu Natal improved at around 6% shows that setting a higher target is achievable. This, however, calls for a more stable and conducive working environment, a supportive and caring Department to all employees.

The Department continues to place curriculum intervention camps high in our priority list. We have to ensure the Learner Attainment Improvement Strategy (LAIP) continue to be reviewed be used to assist us to reclaim our desirable position among the League of the big boys and girls.

With Early Childhood Development now in our Department we need to start the debate of appropriate qualification in ECD. The support we give to these practitioners should not be minimised at all because they deal with children who are at a proper age for mental development. We also need to prepare ourselves for a fierce debate on learner transport and meals for these children. Appropriate infrastructure facilities will also be an issue we need to look into. How do we cause them to learn and play at the same time?

We also need to focus our attention on skills development for our educators at the school for the partially blind and for the deaf. All efforts should be put in place to develop them while at the same time we providing appropriate facilities for these learners.

Proper planning by our sections in the Department should be demanded from all of us. When our learners participate in extra - mural activities, are systems in place to ensure their safety and protection. Responsible officials should ensure learners are not exposed to participating in any activity where there is no proper arrangement made for participation. Which organisations are hosting all these activities? Have we vetted them? How sure are our senior officials that learners are not being used to solicit money from sponsors by corrupt individuals under the pretext of making children play? We all must expose people who use our schools to enrich themselves. Those arranging for sporting events should be transparent and they should get permission from the Department if their event is to invite our learners.

Our employee wellness directorate should continue to ensure our employees are physically active. Why have we stopped the 10 000 steps a day for all of us. I will be requesting the technicians to stop the lifts at Garona buildings from functioning on particular day so that all of us should keep walking up the stairs!!!! 10 000 steps a day tu guys!!!!!!



Those of us who have the gift of singing, may we all join the employee choir and challenge other Departments to follow our example. All of us must have something to do in this Department. If you cannot walk, play or sing then please be a cheering supporter or better still, carry the uniform of the team members - let us all be seen to be active!!!!!!

What is critical is to ensure the Province strengthens partnership with stakeholders in education. It about time that the Province adds to the issue of Language as a barrier to learning. The first step has to be taken to strengthen research on the use of mother tongue in all our schools. It has become clearer that the use of mother tongue is providing a sounder education sense. Learners who learn in their mother tongue appear to perform much better than those who study in a language which is not a mother tongue. We need, as a Province to utilise the Pan South African Language Board (PANSALB) in ensuring we present an educationally sound research in favour of the use of mother tongue in our schools. The majority of the children of our Province are disadvantaged in learning as they

have to think first through the mother tongue and translate to a language which is not theirs. Truth is, English may be considered an international language BUT that does not make it an international language of learning.

The question we may ask ourselves is: How are our teacher development programmes designed? We need to ensure we prepare our educators to be able to teach the learner who continues to enquire and is influenced by the global economy. How are our wellness programmes assisting all our employees?

The support we receive from our Labour Unions is most appreciated. We will continue to strengthen the partnership.

The Department is at a point where the public is continuing to expect from all of us so employed, to utilise the money given to us to deliver service to all - quality service if I may add. The tax payers are giving us money to deliver service of the highest order. Let us not betray our people, let us continue to do our best. All what the public expects from us is commitment, accountability and honesty. If we continue to do our best, and our best is not good enough, the public will support us and they will understand our shortcomings.

The main task at our disposal is to reposition our Department after years of Section 100 (b). In deed there are many lessons we took from Section 100 administration. We can only get better. The fact that in the previous audit the Department received a qualified audit calls on all of us to do an introspection and figure out how much each and every one of us contributed in drawing the Department to the level of qualified audit report. I call on all of us to fold our sleeves and reposition this Department and reclaim our status is a Department that believes in accountability and clean governance. Let us go and learn from the Departments that have received unqualified audit opinions and outshine them. We have a workforce that is willing and able so we need to ensure they receive all the support we need.

Stay blessed!

Dr SH Mvula
Acting Superintendent General
for the
Department of Education



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MEC VIOLA MOTSUMI CONDUCTS A MEET AND GREET SESSIONS ACROSS THE PROVINCE

By Nonkululeko Sereo



MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi embarked on a road show to engage with primary and secondary schools' principals and teachers across the province. The meet and greet sessions started at Bojanala District on the 23rd February 2023 followed by Ngaka Modiri Molema District on the 1st of March 2023 then Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti on 08 March 2023 and Dr Kenneth Kaunda on the 09th of March.

The aim of the sessions was to meet and engage with principals and teacher representatives to hear their concerns and challenges they face at schools, and how they could be best solved. The MEC also used the opportunity to introduce herself officially to the education staff.

Common challenges raised by the audience across the districts were amongst others, security for both teachers and learners, unavailability of water and sanitation, shortage of teachers, learner transport, inadequate infrastructure which leads to overcrowding in classes, lack of fencing in some schools.

MEC Motsumi addressed some of the issues raised and promised to look into the outstanding ones. She said, she was a teacher by profession and understood the challenges they face as she experienced them too. She assured the audience that she will work hand in

hand with Department of Public Works to assist with infrastructure, proper roads and clean water. The Mec also lamented that the learner, teacher policy prescribed should be balanced to make it fair to all the parties concerned.

She said that vacant posts will be advertised and urged principals not to overlook those people who were helping in their schools. MEC Motsumi pointed out that employees that have been acting and temporary teachers should be appointed provided there is a budget available and necessary requirements are met.

The MEC requested reports of schools in dire need of resources and needed urgent interventions and she promised to visit school to assess their state. She promised to have a meeting with district directors to address all issues raised, and that within a fortnight progress will be registered.

The MEC said that principals should be taken on financial training course to help them to better account for state funds. She further mentioned that the relationship between educators, principals and SGBs should be strengthened to demonstrate unity amongst foot soldiers and allow for smooth running of the school system. The MEC reminded schools to activate the first push and last push campaigns and ensure that everything that we do as a system is known by the community leaders like Dikgosi and other education stakeholders.





The hub was introducing 10 schools from Ngaka Modiri Molema to the 4IR and teaching learners on how to identify and solve problems applying the 4IR



NW MEC FOR EDUCATION ADDRESSES LEARNERS AT MAHIKENG INNOVATION HUB

By Godfrey Seatle

The MEC for Education Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi was invited to address the Grade 10 and 11 learners at Mafikeng Digital Innovation Hub, situated at Industrial Site Mahikeng. The MEC engaged with learners on the 2nd day of the Future Makers Hackathon event that took place from the 03rd-04th of March 2023.

The hub was introducing 10 schools from Ngaka Modiri Molema to the 4IR and teaching learners on how to identify and solve problems applying 4IR.

Participating schools were Batswana Commercial, Letsatsing, Barolong, Kebonang, Molelwane, Mafikeng, Setlopo, Boitseanape, Setumo and Mareetsane. Learners were given topics which included Education, Health, Agriculture, Mining and Manufacturing as well as Water and Sanitation, to discuss and come up with solutions to the identified problems.

According to Mr Joseph Ndaba (CEO) for Mafikeng Digital Innovation Hub, the hub was introducing schools to 4IR and teaching learners on how to do it practically. The event was also intended to transfer technological skills to learners across the province.

The CEO also highlighted that the Digital Innovation Hub is still struggling with funds, but is intending to expand the same idea to all schools across the province in the near future. He announced that winners of the competition will receive Laptops, Power banks, Headphones, etc.

MEC Motsumi said that she was happy to learn that the hub was giving the Grade 10-11 learners good opportunity to make better career choices at matric level. She applauded the Digital Innovation Hub for introducing a good learning practice for Grades 10 and 11

learners in the North West Province. She promised the CEO that the Department will continue its support to the idea and pave some ways for the sustainability of such creative institutions in the province. The MEC also pleaded with participating learners to continue with their ability to challenge the 4IR and to plough back to their schools and communities.



PROUD MOMENTS FOR THE NORTH WEST CLASS OF 2022

By Oratile Mogodi

Challenges aside, the class of 2022 did very well as is evident by the improved overall pass percentage.

The department celebrated the class of 2022 on the 20th of January 2023, at Seasons Wedding and Conference Centre, in Mahikeng.

Former Superintendent General Ms Stephinah Semaswe, described the candidates as being worthy of a celebration. She said the North West Department of Education was a system on the rise and dedicated in investing and equipping learners with the necessary tools to assist them in their future. Ms Semaswe mentioned that to improve the performance of the South African

education system requires a dedication, determination and discipline.

The North West Class of 2022 has obtained a pass rate of 79.8% which is an increase of 1.6% as compared to 2021 with 78.2%. Out of 444 schools that had Grade 12 candidates in 2022, 338 obtained 70% and above. There were 14 733 learners who achieved Bachelor passes which is 33.62% as compared to 13 872 in 2021. Number of Diploma passes is 12 370 (28.2%) which is more than the 10 794 achieved in 2021. The number of Higher Certificates is 7 853 that is 17.9%, an improvement from the 2021 with 7470. A total of 34 960 out of 43 823 candidates passed their Grade 12 in 2022 and about 7903 distinctions were produced in different subjects with Life Orientation included.

MEC Ntsetsao Viola Mocumi pointed out the fact that the Class of 2022 had the largest enrolment of learners since 2017, and despite that, the class of 2022 did very well.

In his congratulatory message, Premier Bushy Maape said that the North West Department of Education should aim for a 100% pass and nothing less. He urged the department to introduce Robotics and Mathematics in all the Schools in the North West.

Also in attendance were MEC's from different departments, Members of the Provincial Legislature, HODs of different departments, District mayors and councillors, Deputy Director Generals, district directors, stakeholder, Unions and sponsors as well as principals, parents and the departmental choir.



The best performing candidate in the North West Class of 2022 is Wadee Safiyyah from Zinniaville Secondary in Bojanala District with six distinctions and a total of 1706 marks excluding Life Orientation.

Onkgopotse Tiro Comprehensive Farm School in Ngaka Modiri District achieved 97% pass rate., with 50 out of 61 candidates passed. Meerhof Special School in Bojanala District achieved a 100% pass rate.

The best performing school in the province is Sunrise View Secondary School, a quintile four school that has 180 candidates and achieved 135 Bachelors, 38 Diplomas, 7 Higher Certificates. This School attained a 100% and is in the Bojanala District.

The North West Department of Education would like to give a standing ovation to the Class of 2022 and wish them well in their future endeavours.





MEC MOTSUMI MEET AND GREET SESSION WITH SGB ASSOCIATIONS LEADERSHIP



By Godfrey Seadle

MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi met with the School Governing Body (SGB) associations at Mmabatho Palms, on Tuesday, 04th April 2023. The meeting's aim was to cultivate and strengthen a closer ties with the parents' associations.

The discussion covered the importance of working together, role clarifications and responsibilities between principals and SGB's as well as the challenges facing them.

Associations complained about the delayed implementation of introductory training by the department for their members. The issue was single out as main source of problems arising between some principals and SGB chairpersons. Some principals, in some instances, take advantage of the less capacitated SGB chairpersons due to lack of introductory training.

The National School Governing Body association (NASGB) however, mentioned that associations are continuously providing interventions in schools and pleaded with MEC Motsumi to subject most principals to a management course to strengthen their ability to do things correctly and manage school funds.

In her closing remarks, MEC Motsumi said that SGB is a very important body. She explained "I specifically met with you to have a better society and better partnership going forward. I know that challenges of school-based promotional posts, infrastructure and quality stationery are the main problems. In order to have a healthy relationship those challenges must be addressed. A complain that SGB associations are not treated equally in the province, should also be ironed out immediately. We should also look at coming up with one association body in the North West Province that will help us to increase the results". Lastly, the MEC promised that she will meet with all the SGB associations and Chairpersons and Secretaries of SGBs in due course.



STRATEGIC PLANNING OF EDUCATION

By Peter Paul Kgatitsoe



Ms P.K Rasetshwane:
Chief Director - Strategy
and Governance



Mr P.P Kgatitsoe:
Acting Director -
Strategic
Planning Services



What is strategic planning

Strategic planning is a process that produces a three-year strategic plan and the annual performance plans. The departmental mandate and priorities emanating from the cabinet and long term legislative prescripts are infused in these plans. According to the revised framework for the development of the Strategic plan and APP, Theory of Change is used as a theoretical framework. The strategic plan identifies impacts, outcomes and outcome indicators with targets against which the institution can be measured and evaluated by Parliament, Provincial legislature, Department of Basic Education and the public. Stakeholders are involved in the development of this plans

How is it assisting the department to meets its goals and objectives:

All legislative prescripts, national and provincial priorities are incorporated in the plan to assist the department to meets its goals and objectives. The APP and the operational plan are used as implementation tools. On annual basis the department develops the Annual Performance Plan (APP) which stipulates outputs and targets which are key activities that the department can achieve or deliver in order to respond to the outcomes in the strategic plan. Reporting on these outcomes and outputs is done quarterly.

Departmental reviews are held quarterly in order to quality assure reports before they are submitted to the Office of the Premier and the MEC.

How are the strategic and annual performance plans structured:

Both the Strategic Plan (5yr) and the APP(annual) have Part A: Our Mandate, Part B: Our Strategic focus, Part C: Measuring our performance, Risks and mitigations, Public entities, Technical Indicator Descriptors and Annexures E.g. District Development Model (DDM- One plan).

The annual development of the APP is informed by the Annual Report, SONA, SOPA, Sector priorities, Provincial priorities, Auditor General Recommendations, oversight reports and other pertinent structures or guidelines/ reports.

How does government mandates impact on departmental strategy:

The government mandates are key components of the plans and are measured annually in the APP and Mid-term/five year in the Strategic plan. Government mandates guides all departmental plans. They also enhance integrated planning to avoid silos planning. The government mandates are the blue print of all plans. They assist the department to develop plans which address the needs of communities and hence service delivery.

When do we say the strategy is relevant to the department:

The relevance is defined by a strategic plan that is responsive to the MTSF (medium strategic framework). The MTSF emanates from the Cabinet Lekgotla resolutions which emanate from the manifesto of the ruling party. When the department achieves the ultimate change it intended to bring in five

years (IMPACT). When the department achieves 100% in the outcomes responding to the Sector and provincial priorities. When there is minimal social ills and schools are functional. When the department achieves clean audit and there is no irregular or wasteful expenditure. We shall have arrived.

When should the Strategic Planning takes place and is the department adhering to the time frames?

The planning process for the strategic plan happens every Five years (MTSF) years after the presidential elections. The APP Strategic Planning session should take place once a year to plan for the upcoming years. Reviews should take place on annual basis. The North West Department of Education held its Strategic Planning Lekgotla on the 22 to 23 March 2023, at Ngwenya Lodge in Dr Kenneth Kaunda District. APP reviews and planning takes place every year without failure. Resolutions are generated after every engagement.

Who is the responsible person for strategy of the department?

Ms P.K Rasetshwane:
Chief Director- Strategy and Governance

Mr P.P Kgatitsoe:
Acting Director - Strategic Planning Services

Ms D.C Moroeng:
Deputy Director - Strategic Planning

Ms B.O Molaoa:
Deputy Director -Monitoring and Reporting

Enabling School Community Project Mini Library launch

By Tshegofatso Molopyane



Promoting a reading culture in schools

Each school will have atleast 24 setswana books

The North West Department of Education joined hands with the University College London and the University of Pretoria through DBE to roll out the launch of mini libraries to ten (10) pilot schools in Ngaka Modiri Molema District.

The ten identified primary schools for the pilot were Mokaila, Pudulogo, KoiKoi, Taolelo, G.J Podile, Lotlamoreng, Matshepe, St'Marys, Slurry and Bodiri.

The piloting project's main aim was learning and health improvement for primary school children in rural communities by enriching a "reading for enjoyment" culture in foundation phase. It was also aimed at giving learners the opportunity to voice their stories and be authors, to promote a culture of reading for enjoyment and understanding. It was also directed at celebrating the work of the learners.

Professor Qing Gu from the University college of London, Professor Liezel Ebersöhn from University of Pretoria, Mr Karabo Tladi from DBE and Dr Jennifer Mosepele from NW Department of Education, all led the two teams that were put together to hold special events at the identified schools from the 20th to 24th February 2023. Educators, School Governing Bodies (SGBs), Parents and Learners were also part of the whole

process of engagement.

The team shared with the attendees the impact of the project while the learners showcased their reading talents through dramas and spelling BEE. The schools received books, which were written by their own learners from the project team, while the community reading champions and educators received certificates of appreciation.

The SGB and Principals thanked the project team for the opportunity and the impact that the initiative has done to the schools. It has been a pleasant journey for the community reading champions and the fieldworkers who gained a lot of experience and received training and a stipend.



Handing over by Professor Qing and Dr Mosepele.
Cutting of ribbon by the Principal of Taolelo P.S
Mr Maekwa

The schools promised to take care of their mini libraries and the books donated to them. The books authored by learners are of sentimental value as they have name of learners, principals and the school acknowledged in them; which meant a lot to everyone who was involved in the project success.

The community reading champions, fieldworkers, sponsors, principals and teachers met at Mmabatho Palms Hotel to recap on the achievement of their future desires. "We want to be remembered as a district that is creative and solves problems," said Dr Mosepele. The district is grateful for the legacy of reading and writing books the universities have left and is committed to keep it alive.

From the 10 pilot schools, learners in Grade R to 3 wrote 108 books that were published. The CRCs and fieldworkers will continue to assist learners in writing and reading books.

For further information about the project, please visit <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe/enablingschools>

National SASA-II summer games

By Nonkululeko Sereo

The North West Province hosted the South African Sport Association for the Intellectually Impaired (SASA-II) learners from the 27th to the 31st of March 2023, in Rustenburg, Bojanala district. The main reason for this event was to showcase the talent and potential of the learners in special schools across the country. It was also to cherish learners and support them in their special capabilities.

Mr Ronnie Mohlabi, SASA-II president, encouraged officials from various provinces to support and budget for the sports of the intellectually impaired learners as well as those with Down Syndrome. He also urged other provinces like Free State, Eastern Cape and Northern Cape which were no at the games, to participate in sport for the benefit of the learners.

Honourable MEC for Education, Ms Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi, said that it was an honour for the games to be hosted in the North West province and was happy that all activities ran smoothly. She pledged the North West Department of Education support for the SASA-II.

Results and awards from the games are as follows:

Cricket

North West and Western Cape are co-champions as weather prevented them from playing their final game.

Mpho Seloane from NW won the best batsman and player of the week awards. He will be going to the Cricket South Africa awards ceremony and be awarded for the best player in cricket SASA-II category.

Blackball Pool

Team events NW females position 1

Single females NW position 1

Double females NW position 2

Single males NW position 3

Table tennis

Team events for males and females NW obtained position 1, while double females obtained gold and males got bronze medal. Mix doubles got silver medal.

Swimming

North West got a total of 67 medals, 21 gold, 31 silver and 15 bronze.

Hockey

Oratile Mokaleng from NW won the best goalkeeper of the tournament.

North West hockey team obtained position 4.

Indoor Rowing

The NW got the best team while Tlotlo Moacwiemang got the best male athlete of the tournament. The sporting code got 6 medals; 3 gold, 2 silver and a bronze. The MEC for Education and SASA-II President congratulated the winners and gave them a word of appreciation that they are all winners, just for participating in the tournament of this nature. The next national games will be held in Limpopo province later this year.



DR RUTH S. MOMPATI DISTRICT CONGRATULATING CLASS OF 2022

By Kelebogile Mothibi

The class of 2022 were commended for remaining committed even though they experienced tough times during covid 19 pandemic. The Celebration was held in Dr RSM on 24 January 2023 at MM Sebitloane Special School, Taung.

The District increased their performance with 3,89% from 72,89% in 2021 to 76,79% in 2022.

It is worth noting that 2022 Matriculants were entering FET phase in 2020 and it was not a walk in the park. They experienced difficulties during teaching and learning through pandemic era.

All Sub Districts performed better in 2022 as compared to 2021, and the top Sub District Kagisano Molopo which is number three (3) in the Province, achieved 82,66%, Greater Taung at 77,1% and Naledi at 72,62%. Morokweng 2 Circuit recorded 87,86% and remains number one amongst 12 circuits, 5 years consecutively since 2018. The best performing circuit produced the District top learner, Refilwe Lekgoane from Setswakgosing High School who is also the top learner in Physical Sciences.

In Recognising our good performing schools, the top 3 schools in the district are: P.H Moeketsi Agric School (98,8%) at position 3, Stella High School (100%) at position 2 and Reivilo High School with only 37 learners, 19 bachelors at 100% pass rate.

The then acting district director, Rev Mosimanegape Morake could not hold his breath when praising good performance of Huhudi High School in Kagisano Molopo: "I would like to single out one school, Huhudi High School. When looking at the 10 schools, Huhudi High School is the school with highest grade 12 enrolment which obtained the highest number of Bachelors in the district. It should be noted that the school is in a deep rural area and that only 3 learners out of 163 enrolled learners did not achieve. We need to really put hands together for that stealing performance to the management, educators, SGB, parents and learners of Huhudi High School. Please continue to keep the good work up".

Through the support and commitment of learners, parents, SGBs, Social Partners, educators, administrative personnel, subject advisors, SESs, Circuit Managers, Sub District

Managers and Curriculum Chief Education Specialist, the District is walking with pride, it takes a village to raise a child.

**“Because
your own strength
is unequal to the task, do
not assume that it is beyond the
powers of man; but if anything is
within the powers and province
of man, believe that it is within
your own compass
also.”**

Professor Martin Ntwaeaborwa, a professor of Physics and Deputy Dean for Research and Innovation at the University of the Witwatersrand graced the event as a motivational speaker. In his speech he energised, inspired, motivated and shared the personal experience with the District performing learners as they will be facing the new world out there.

In conclusion the Acting District Director quoted, "Because your own strength is unequal to the task, do not assume that it is beyond the powers of man; but if anything is within the powers and province of man, believe that it is within your own compass also." Marcus Aurelius

Antoninus



BOJANALA DISTRICT 2022 Matric Well Done Function

By Shimane Seriteng

Bojanala District hailed LAIP as cornerstone of their success. They celebrated the Matric class of 2022 NSC results at Fields College in Rustenburg, on the 31st January 2023. The event was graced by Cllr Ramokgadi, MMC in Bojanala District Municipality, Labour Unions, Principals of top archiving schools and and Departmental Officials led by The District Director Ms M.J Paledi.

The district has retained its number one spot in the province by registering 81.4% pass rate in the NSC results. In her overview Ms M.J Paledi, Bojanala District Director attributed the quality results to the critical role played by all despite the level at which they are.

Hundred and sixty-six (166) Secondary Schools wrote the 2022 examinations

in the District. One school performed at 0%. There are schools that made Bojanala proud such as Sunrise View Secondary School which achieved 100% pass rate, and is the top performing school in Bojanala with highest number of learners for University Degree Studies, and obtained position one in the Province. Brits High School registered most learners and achieved 100% pass rate. Rustenburg High School emerged as the best school in Bojanala with Highest Number of subject Distinctions and also the Highest number of learners who qualified for degree studies and obtained position 01 in the Province (199 bachelors out of 274 candidates) H.F Tlou is the best Secondary School with the highest percentage of learners for University Degree Studies and obtained position 03 in the Province. Lighthouse Christian

College is a top school with highest percentage of learners for University Degree studies and obtained position 03 in the Province.

Hamakom Private School is a Top school with highest percentage of learners for

University Degree Studies and obtained position 03 in the Province. Fields College also registered 100% pass rate. Thuto Kitso, our Correctional Service School performed at 100%. Meerhof High School performed at 100% despite all odds.

The best performing candidate in Bojanala District class of 2022 is Wadee Safiyya from Zinniaville Secondary School. She obtained six distinctions. She scored 1706 marks in all subjects excluding Life Orientation.



EDUCATION LEARNER PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2023

By Refiloe Motswenyane

North West Education Department held a two day Learner Performance Review on the 15 -16 March at Mmabatho Palms Hotel. The review was attended by 200 officials. The learner performance review tracked grade 8-12 learner performance in an effort to bring about some positive change.

In highlighting the purpose of the day, the Acting Superintendent General, Dr Shadrack Mvula emphasised the importance of going back to the basics by monitoring, supporting and development. He also mentioned the importance of stakeholder relation. The introduction of June examination, and the protection of teaching time in all respect. The Acting SG added that the department should devolve more authority to districts and focus on teaching and learning as the core function of the department.

In pledging her support, MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi made a clarion call for the

department should reclaim position 1, face the reality of 2023 and rectify where we lacked in the previous year. "We should identify the problem, evaluate the possibility of the results and find a solution. Furthermore, in order to better the matric results, we should fast track the payment of temporary teachers, benchmark with the best provinces like Free State, Kwa-Zulu Natal etc. Special schools must appoint SESs and teachers that have necessary qualifications and skills. Provision of tool of trade for specialist, Post Provision Model (PPM) remains a challenge in many schools, we must re-look at PPM for schools who are under-performing in the same way we look at performing school.

Way forward of review- Improving time on task in Grade 8 and 9, quality assessment in all grades. Head of departments in schools should be supported in terms of monitoring and moderation. Encouraging learners to register Maths, process system approach to learner attainment.

Improvement plans to be drawn to address Statistical Moderation Report issues. There should be Subject Teacher Improvement Plan, Capacity building (workshops), induction and orientation of all newly appointed officials on all aspects of their workplace. Every employee of the department should be held accountable and consequence management should be applied where a need arises. Empowering managers in all labour related matters, fast-tracking of appeals procedures and processes, Skill audit and fast-track the filling of vacant posts and ensure proper leave management.

The following Stakeholders pledged their support, SADTU, NAPTOSA, PEU, NATU, SAPA, PanSALB, and University of North West.

DR KENNETH KAUNDA DISTRICT CELEBRATES THE CLASS OF 2022

By Godfrey Seattle and Nonkululeko Sereo

Dr Keneth Kaunda district joined hands with the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality to celebrate high matric performance on the 08th January 2023, at Klerksdorp Technical High School. The district produced a remarkable number of bachelors in the Matric results of 2022, as compared to all other districts in the province. Out of 75 districts in the Country, Dr Kenneth Kaunda became position 31 and it went further to obtained position 2 in the province.



That, according to the District Director, Mr Benny Monale, is a clear indication that the district is working tirelessly to achieve good and quality results. Mr Monale explained that the district is in a serious marathon to overtake Bojanala District which occupied position 1 with a slight 0.6% difference to Dr Kenneth Kaunda District in 2022. Dr Keneth Kaunda scored 80.78% in the 2022 matric results and produced more learners with bachelors in the province. Mr Monale proudly announced that 4 learners from Dr KK enrolled with the University at London whilst 7 learners are in the United Kingdom(UK).

The District director mentioned Chapter 9 of the National Development Plan (NDP) that outlines everyone's role in the education system and thanked all the principals, teachers, parents and stakeholders for the professional support that they offer to the Dr kenneth Kaunda District. "I really want to say thank you to our dear teachers and principals for not giving up on the young souls during the difficult time of the pandemic," concluded Monale. The event was attended by 270 people comprising of departmental officials, office of the mayor, sponsors, principals, learners and the parents.





NGAKA MODIRI MOLEMA DISTRICT CELEBRATES ITS STARS OF 2022

By Tshegofatso Molopyane

The Class of 2022 was celebrated on the 25th January 2022 at Maseru Parks and Entertainment Centre. The event was attended by 300 people, including the celebrants and their parents, educators, principals, stakeholders and departmental officials.

The Class of 2022 is considered resilient as they managed to withstand despite the challenges of Covid 19 pandemic and loadshedding. They succeeded against all odds.

The District Director Mr S.D Ntlabathi appreciated the good work done by learners and educators. He also appreciated the support given to educators by the subject advisors and all the managers. The purpose of the day was to celebrate those who produced excellence. He quoted Martin Luther King Jnr "If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way". The circuit managers and curriculum coordinators were also acknowledged for their contribution in ensuring quality education for the learners. Ratlou Sub District was applauded for their contribution of 10.5% towards improving the district results of 78.4% and the overall performance of the province.

The Stakeholders and Sponsors were also afforded an opportunity to render a messages of support to the learners, and they were reminded that they still have a long journey beyond matric. They were encouraged to let their dreams be a drive to their future.

Top 5 Learners in the District

Position 1, K. Modise from St Mary's High School. Position 2, M.O Seoloane from Geysdorp High. Position 3, O. Mokhuwane from Curro Academy. Position 4, J.C Bloem from Lichtenburg High. Position 5, R. Dryer from Sannieshof High.



Dr B.K.M Molokoe received a certificate in recognition of outstanding and selfless contribution to the performance of the district



North West Department of Education HIV and AIDS soldiers' commemoration

By Oratile Mogodi

HIV and AIDS is one of the diseases that have been around for the longest time and robbed a lot of people of their loved ones. The 1st of December is set aside as a day to show compassion to those who are infected, affected and those who have died fighting this disease.

The North West Department of Education took part in benevolence to those who live with this disease by hosting a Departmental World AIDS commemoration. Held at Seasons Wedding and Conference Centre in Mahikeng, Ngaka Modiri Molema District.

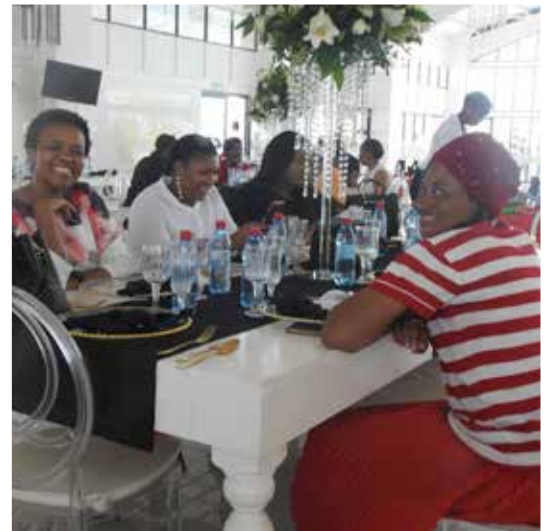
"This occasion was mainly planned to give support to those who are victims of the virus, to raise awareness about HIV and AIDS and other related chronic diseases", said Ms Kenalemang Menong.

According to Sister Steenkamp from Department of Health, HIV and AIDS and Tuberculosis always go hand in hand. She highlighted that even in the present time, there is still a stigma behind HIV and AIDS and this is in most cases due to lack of knowledge. She also highlighted the 95'95'95 strategy which was launched in 2014 by The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). The aim of this strategy was to diagnose 95% of people, provide antiretroviral therapy to 95% of those diagnosed and achieve a viral suppression of 95% for those who are treated, by the year 2030. She concluded by urging people to test and know their status in order to achieve the 95'95'95 goal.

Mr Dipula Semaeco from Department of Social Development highlighted that Gender Based Violence is on the rise in the country and of which many lead to women being murdered and having less survivors. He also mentioned that Gender Based Violence indirectly affects people in the community.

Dr Lesego Molokoane urged everyone to work together in fighting against Gender Based Violence as well as HIV/AIDS. He then thanked the North West Department of Education for hosting this event which was aimed at comforting those who are living with this disease.

Mr Louie Marakalla acknowledged and thanked all those who honoured the invite including a representative from Assupol. He also thanked the Employee Health Wellness for a marvellous job done in planning for this day.



SHOWING CARE TO THE ELDERLY EMPLOYEES

By Nonkululeko Sereo

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. North West Department of Education gathered its older persons (over 55years) to a workshop from the 30 November to 01 December 2022 at King's Gate Hotel, Rustenburg. The workshop was under the theme "Resilience and meaningful socio-economic contribution of older persons in a changing world".



Ms Dorah Brander said the gathering was intended to inform and educate the older persons on financial fitness, good health practices and possible health conditions that may surface due to old age.

Thabo Sesoko from AC Capital encouraged the older persons to consult with a registered financial advisor before retirement in order to make an informed financial decision. He further said taking a lump sum of the pension usually leads to irresponsible spending and attracts fraudsters.

Professor Leepile Sehularo from the North West University spoke about mental health issues and urged men to express matters that might put their mental health in jeopardy. He said that about

15% of adults over 60 years suffer from a mental disorder, therefore they should check their mental state as they would for other diseases. Mr Boitumelo Molato also from NWU shared light on Prostate and Cervical cancer and risks factors which include obesity and alcohol intake.

Government Employees Pension Fund representative Mr Jacky Tau advised retiring employees to at least submit all necessary documents to Human Resources or GEPP office 4-6 months before their exiting date. He further urged them to visit GEPP office to check if details such as services dates, beneficiaries are correct and corresponded with those at HR.

Ms Koolebale Hlatswayo, a retired citizen, shared how she was enjoying her retirement.

She also added that there are programmes for senior citizens to partake in activities such as sports and sewing so as not to just sit at home as it could result in a mental breakdown, depression. She also warned against "new romantic partners" that only come once one is near or already receiving the benefits.

Stakeholders such as the South African Revenue Services, Government Employees Medical Scheme, Government Employees Pension Fund, AC Capital and North West University were also in attendance to share information with the Department's older persons. PROREC was also there to direct the physical activities at Kloofview Primary School and the older persons actively participated.



Appointments



Ms KMM Menong
Deputy Director
Occupational Health



Lois Marakala
Deputy Director Quality of
Worklife, EHW



Mr R S Khechane
Deputy Director
Training and
Development



Mr R Maine
Assistant Director PMDS



Mr Alfred Dikgopo
Assistant Director for Safety,
Health, Environment, Risk
and Quality Management



Mr Sello Ramong
Director Employees Labour
Relation Services

BOJANALA DISTRICT

1. **Mr L F Ntwape** : CES (Curriculum)
2. **Mr P.D Mathe** : CES (Learner Support
Social Services)
3. **Mr M Kedikilwe** : CES (Circuit Coordination)
4. **Ms N S Masipa** : CES (Circuit Coordination)

Retirement

Retirement is an opportunity for many to branch out and spend time on their favourite hobbies, having more time for relaxation, travel experiences or more time with their family. Even joyous retirements can affect every emotion from bittersweet nostalgia to feelings of deep relief. For some, it's a time to say goodbye to a dear co-worker and for others, it's time for new business opportunities. 351 Officials and Teachers across the Province for the year 2022/2023 have retired from Department of Education.



Mr. M.S Malindi
Professional Educator
Development Services



Ms. O Mpangula
Transport Section



Dr. M Teu Institutional
Development and Support



Ms. F Mentor
Communication



Mr. P Sekoto
Learner Support Services

FAREWELL



Tumelo D Serobatse
Business Information System
in Government Information
and Communication Technol-
ogy Management Directorate



Mr M Seshibe

You did it! *Congratulations*

Mr Maropene Seshibe Graduated LLB with UNISA through a departmental bursary obtained in 2017



