

North West Provincial Teaching Awards Honour Excellence in Education



Mr Sandile Pooe (Acting Chief Director:Finance Management, Mr Lengane Bogatsu (Superintendent General), Ms Johanna Robertse (National Best Teacher Award winner), MEC Viola Motsumi and Kgosi Gobusamang Shole (North West House of Traditional and Khoi-San Leaders).





North West Provincial Teaching Awards Honour Excellence in Education

By: Bayanda Zenzile

The North West Department of Education successfully hosted the provincial leg of the National Teaching Awards (NTAs) at the Mmabatho Convention Centre on Thursday, 28 August 2025 celebrating the invaluable role of teachers and school leaders who go above and beyond to transform education.

The ceremony recognised outstanding teaching across categories, with winners set to represent the province at the National Teaching Awards later this year.

The award recipients are as follows:

- * Excellence in Grade R Teaching: Ms Carla Botha, Laerskool Unie (Dr Kenneth Kaunda district)
- * Excellence in Teaching Life Skills: Me Letlhogonolo Moteu, Waterkloof Primary School (Bojanala district)
- * Excellence in Primary School Teaching: Mrs Magaretha Bornman, Laerskool Sannieshof (Ngaka Modiri Molema district)
- * Excellence in Primary School Leadership: Mr Ditshego Tlhowe, Tlhabane West Primary School (Bojanala district)
- * Excellence in Secondary School Teaching: Ms Dorcus Diphoko, Iketleetse Secondary School (Bojanala district)
- * Excellence in Secondary School Leadership: Mr Adriaan Joubert, Hoërskool Wagpos (Bojanala district)
- * Excellence in Special Needs Teaching: Ma Koketso Motaung, Temogo Special School (Bojanala district)
- * Excellence in Special Schools Leadership: Ms Mpho Jasson, Christian School for the Blind (Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati district)
- * Excellence in Teaching Mathematics GET Phase: Mr Tshepiso Seshuwane, Thuto-Neo Primary School (Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati district)
- * Excellence in Teaching Mathematics FET Phase: Ms Masego Nchoe, Bodibe Secondary School (Ngaka Modiri Molema district)
- * Excellence in Teaching Natural Science: Mr Bongumusa Mabuza, Reabona Secondary School (Dr Kenneth Kaunda district)
- * Excellence in Teaching Physical Sciences: Mr Tlhalefang Zwane, Mpolokang Secondary School (Ngaka Modiri Molema district)
- * Excellence in Technology-Enhanced Teaching and Learning: Mr Ronewa Tshikhido, Noka Ya Lerato Primary School (Bojanala district)
- * Kader Asmal Lifetime Achievement Award: Mr Yvonne Kube, Tidimane Secondary School (Bojanala district)
- * National Best Teacher Award: Mra Johanna Robertse, Tebogo Primary School (Bojanala district)

Congratulating the winners and acknowledging the finalists, North West MEC for Education, Viola Motsumi says dedication and resilience are commendable.

"I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all our award recipients, who will carry the North West flag with pride at the national stage. Your dedication, resilience, and innovation in shaping the future of our learners are commendable. I also want to acknowledge all the finalists; you are all winners in your own right.

"This year, Bojanala district demonstrated its strength by clinching 8 first positions, which translates to 53,3% of the awards. Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati district emerged as the most improved district, also standing at 53,3%. These milestones inspire us to keep striving for excellence", expresses Motsumi.

Winners walk away with trophies, certificates, and prizes, and will now represent the North West Province at the prestigious National Teaching Award



Middle: MEC Viola Motsumi and Lengane Bogatsu flanked by the Directors of all the districts.



Executive Mayor: Councillor Tshepiso Mphehlo and Dr Frank Ntwape congratulating the Provincial NTA winner



L to R: Ms Nosizwe Seokolo from Dr Kenneth Kaunda. Ms Lesdi Moalosi (Dr RuRuth Segomotsi Mompati), Dr Frank Ntwape from Bojanala and Ms Eunice Lesetedi from Ngaka Modiri Molema

North West Department of Education Welcomes new Superintendent General

By Bayanda Zenzile

orth West Department of Education is pleased to announce that Mr Lengane Bogatsu has been appointed as the new Superintendent-General (SG) following a rigorous selection process.

MEC for Education, Viola Motsumi, introduced Mr Bogatsu to the Department's senior management, corporate services personnel, school principals, and School Governing Bodies (SGBs) during a strategic engagement session held on 25 and 26 June 2025 at the Mmanatho Convention Centre.

Born and bred in Ganalaagte in the Delareyville area, Mr Bogatsu brings with him an impressive blend of vibrant leadership, grounded experience, and a visionary outlook for the future of education in the North West province. His deep understanding of public service and his passion for development make him a dynamic force as he takes the helm of the Department at a critical time.

Mr Bogatsu holds two Master's degrees; one in Public Management and another in Development and Management. He also holds a Bachelor of Education from the University of Natal, a Higher Diploma in Education, and a Primary Teacher's Diploma from Phatsimang College of Education.

With a career spanning nearly three decades across various spheres of public service, Bogatsu joins the North West Department of Education, after serving as Chief Director in the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development where he also held several acting roles including Acting Chief Land Claims Commissioner. His roots in education run deep having served as a dedicated school principal at Kgoke Lesabe High School from 1997 to 2007.

Bogatsu is also no stranger to political leadership, having been a Mayor and Councillor of Ditsobotla Local Municipality from 1994 to 2000.

Addressing team education, Mr Bogatsu outlined his immediate focus areas for driving the Department forward. These include accelerating school infrastructure projects, strengthening school safety, ensuring timely filling of vacant posts, revitalising school camps to support learner performance, forging partnerships with the business sector, and addressing the high failure rates in identified schools across the province.

"With 1,463 schools under our care, we must remain agile, responsive and intentional in how we serve our learners," he said. Learner results are a result of who you are and I am ready to work with all stakeholders to steer this Department in the right direction", Bogatsu expresses.

MEC Motsumi expressed full confidence in Mr Bogatsu's capabilities, describing him as a "seasoned leader with a servant heart and a track record of delivery.

"Mr Bogatsu understands the pulse of our communities and the urgency of our mission," said Motsumi. "His professional acumen and passion for education make him the right person to lead our Department into a new era of excellence. I plead with the team to grant him space to execute and excel", says Motsumi.

The North West Department of Education welcomes Mr Lengane Bogatsu with great optimism and pledges its full support as he embarks on this important journey of educational transformation as of Tuesday, 01 July 2025.



Left to right: Mr Lengane Bogatsu(Superintendent General), MEC Viola Motsumi and Mr Kagiso Ntshwe (Director: Office of the MEC)



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing the SGB and Principals during the Welcomes newly Superintendent General.



Mr. Lengane Bogatsu the newly appointed Superintendent General of the Department.



Officials attending the Welcomes and Introduction new Superintendent General.



Department Officials celebrating the arrival of the Superintendent General.



MEC Motsumi Embarked on an Interactive Roadshow with Under-Performing Schools in the Province

By Elias Malindi

The MEC for Education, Viola Ntsetsao Motsumi, had an interactive session with the underperforming schools of Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati that obtained less than 70% during the term 2 matric examinations. The meeting was held on the 5th of August 2025 at Stellaland Primary School, Vryburg.

The primary objective of these engagements with affected School Principals and School Governing Body (SGB) Chairpersons was to identify areas for improvement and develop strategies for success. This roadshow is intended to share the department's vision for the future of learners. All identified schools were given the chance to outline and explain their issues during the sessions and curriculum specialists, Dr Boitumelo Motsus, Dr Emily Mammen and Ms Gopolang provided them with advice on how to deal with underperforming schools. Identified subjects giving challenges were Mathematics, Languages, Life Science and Physical Science.

MEC Motsumi raised her concern that the target of the District is 95% but Grades 4 to 11 have obtained below 70%. She highlighted that this poor performance has been consistent in the district since 2024. In 2025, both Term 1 and Term 2 in the district are still in the red zone, less than 70%.

MEC Motsumi expressed her satisfaction with the improvement of Term 2 for the Grade 12 class in 2025. "I am very pleased with the performance registered by the Grade 12 class in terms 1 and 2 respectively compared to 2024. There are signs of improvement and we need to be consistent in order to achieve our target of 95%. In Term 1 and 2 the Grade 12 class obtained 85% and 84% respectively, whilst the District during this period last year obtained 77% and 78%."

MEC Motsumi applauded Baga Mothibi, Manthe, and Pudumong Clusters, whose schools in the Grade 12 class obtained above 80% in Term 1 and 2 respectively. She said Batlhaping and Marubising Secondary Schools in Taung Central Center need to improve their performance.

MEC Motsumi further expressed her concern about Kgononyane, Kromellenboog, Kgosithebe, Colinda, Bray and Pica Pau Secondary schools, which obtained below 70% in Term 1 and 2. She said such results have the potential to affect the entire district and province if they are left unattended. Motsumi mentioned that there are some schools which are not consistent in their performance. In one term, they perform well, but in the other term they drop their performance. She mentioned that such performances should be eradicated all together.

"One should applaud the District's performance in Setswana as a subject. In the first term, the subjects obtained 100%, whilst in the second term they obtained 98%. This gives us hope that the predominant language in the province is still well served by our learners. Mathematics and Physical Science are not doing very well. Mathematics obtained 73% whilst Physical Science obtained 79%. "I believe the district can do better at improving their performance in these subjects", said MEC Motsumi.

Ms Gopolang Moshoeshoe sensitise schools and curriculum officials to utilise the Data Driven District (DDD) to get underperforming schools, subjects and learners. This dashboard will enable them to intervene early by providing support learners need to succeed.



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing the Under-Performing Schools at Stella and Primary School in Vryburg.



(Right to Left: Dr. Motsusi the Acting Director for Curriculum, (Middle) Mr. L. Bogatsu the Superintendent General and Mr B. Monale the Acting Deputy Director General.



Ms. M. Dithejane the District Director for Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District



Officials from Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District.

Premier Mokgosi and Mec Motsumi Criss-Cross the Province to Assess and Monitor Rogress of Under-Performing Schools

By Godfrey Seatle

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orth West Premier, Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi accompanied by MEC for Education, Viola Motsumi visited Milner Secondary School in the City of Matlosana Local Municipality for an interactive session with Principals and School Governing Bodies of underperforming schools in Dr Kenneth Kaunda District.

The visit forms part of ongoing efforts by government to assist underperforming schools to develop measures, strategies and remedial action plans that will assist them to improve their performance. The session also focused on tracking performance for both term 1 and term 2 to swiftly attend to challenges impeding all schools performing below the targeted threshold of 95% pass rate in 2025.

MEC Motsumi says of the two hundred and thirty schools in the District, nine performed below the targeted threshold of seventy percent averaging between fifty and sixty-eight percent in the 2024 National Senior Certificate Examinations. She says various measures are being implemented to cover the lost ground.

"We have noticed a slight decline in our mid year examinations hence these intervention measures. This District has a potential to produce good quality results that can make them and the province shine. The problem of inconsistent performance should be addressed with immediate effect" maintains MEC Motsumi.

With only two weeks left before preparatory examinations Premier Mokgosi says the intervention measures employed by the Department to improve learner performance are encouraging.



MEC Viola Motsumi welcoming the North West Premier, Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi during the MEC engagement with Under-Performing Schools.

"As the provincial government we support all these measures. The Department must put all the stops in ensuring that all the resources are mobilized to assist both teachers and learners prepare thoroughly for the upcoming examinations. Critically all mechanisms must be activated to provide support and monitor progress in the remaining quarters of this academic year" insists Premier Mokgosi.

The visit by Premier Mokgosi follows MEC Motsumi's interactive session with teachers and management of various schools at Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati grappling learner performance. The sessions will extend to both Ngaka Modiri Molema and Bojanala Platinum Districts.



Premier, Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi addressing the Under-Performing Schools of Dr Kenneth Kaunda District.



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing the Under-Performing Schools of Dr Kenneth Kaunda District.



Ms. Seokolo the Acting District Director of Dr Kenneth Kaunda District welcoming the guests at the gathering held at Milner Secondary School.



Ngaka Modiri Molema District Urged to Intensify Efforts Ahead of Preparatory Exams

By Bayanda Zenzile

The North West Department of Education has continued with its targeted school performance roadshows, with a key engagement held ton Thursday, 07 August 2025, at Hoerskool Zeerust.



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing the Under-Performing Schools of Ngaka Modiri Molema District.

Officials attending the interactive session with the MEC.

The session, led by the MEC for Education in the North West, Viola Motsumi, focused on underperforming schools in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District, as part of the Department's commitment to improving learner outcomes ahead of the 2025 preparatory and final examinations.

Ngaka Modiri Molema District, which recorded 84, 48 per cent in the Term 2 results, a slight decline from 86 per cent in Term 1 remains a strong contender in the province but has been encouraged to intensify its recovery strategies.

With only a few weeks remaining before the preparatory examinations, the Department has called on school management in the District to consolidate efforts and accelerate interventions.

MEC Motsumi addressed principals and school management teams of schools that performed below 50-79 per cent in the recent mid-year examinations.

The roadshows which have become part of MEC Motsumi's strategies are designed to foster accountability, offer support, and drive improved performance,

especially in schools needing urgent academic turnaround.

MEC Motsumi calls for accountability and intensified efforts ahead of preparatory examinations. "Ngaka Modiri Molema has demonstrated strength before, and we firmly believe it can do even more. With the preparatory exams around the corner, we must act decisively. The drop, though slight, is a signal that we need to refocus, recalibrate, and reenergise our schools."

"The province has set its sights on achieving a 95% overall pass rate by the end of this academic year. This goal is within and for our learners to pass, they have to match the energy of the teachers in front of them. Let us entrench our efforts with intention, urgency, and determination", expresses Motsumi.

This interactive session follows two others in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati and Dr Kenneth Kaunda districts. The last leg will be in Bojanala district on Friday, 08 August 2025 to ensure every learner in the North West has a fair chance at success.



Ngaka Modiri Molema District Officials attending the interactive session with the MEC.



Ms. Eunice Lesetedi the Director of Ngaka Modiri Molema District welcoming the guests during the MEC roadshowa with Under-Performing Schools.

Bojanala District to Tackle Underperformance by Prioritizing Stem Ahead of

Preparatory Examinations

By Mphata Molokwane



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing the Under-Performing Schools of Bojanala District.

The North West MEC for Education, Viola Motsumi, today concluded a critical interactive session with underperforming schools in the Bojanala District, outlining targeted interventions to enhance academic outcomes and address specific challenges, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

Bojanala District, a pivotal region within the North West Province, supports a significant 385,841 learners across its 618 schools, guided by the dedication of approximately 12,279 teachers. The district consistently reports the highest number of Grade 12 learners province-wide and boasts a commendable track record, maintaining an achievement rate exceeding 80% over the past six years, with its highest recorded at 89.55% in 2019. In 2024, the district narrowly missed its 90% target, achieving 89.4%.

Despite these strong overall results, the district's ambitious target of 97% has been significantly impacted by performance in critical STEM subjects. It was highlighted that 3,007 learners specifically failed these subjects, which also adversely affected performance in other academic streams. Particular concern was raised regarding three schools—Reebone Secondary School (76%), Ramoroko Secondary (72%), and Morare Secondary (78%)—which experienced notable declines in their Term Two performance.

MEC Motsumi emphasized the urgency of addressing these gaps, encouraging school principals to fully utilize intervention programmes introduced by the department. "Our commitment to every learner's success is unwavering," stated MEC Motsumi. "We must strategically deploy all available resources to bolster performance, especially in subjects critical for future economic participation and national development."

To this end, MEC Motsumi advised the district to implement comprehensive strategies, including extra classes and weekend camps, and fostering a culture of peer teaching, where top-performing teachers mentor and support underperforming schools. These interventions are crucial as the North West province prepares for upcoming preparatory examinations scheduled before the end of August 2025.

Positive strides are already visible; Bojanala District improved its Term Two pass rate from 82% last year to 89% this year. Furthermore, all Local Area Offices demonstrated improvement, with Moses Kotane increasing by 15%, Rustenburg by 1%, Moretele by 6%, and Madibeng by 7%. While significant progress has been made, the district currently requires an additional number of learners to achieve its ambitious 97% overall target, underscoring the collective effort still needed



Officials from Bojanala District attending the MEC meeting with the Under Performing Schools of Bojanala District.



Dr Ntwape welcoming the guests during the MEC roadshowa with Under-Performing Schools.





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"Let's Grow North West Together"







Basic Education Employment Initiative: Stakeholder and Partner Orientation

By Nonkululeko Sereo

The Basic Education Employment Initiative is a ground-breaking program aimed at transforming the economy and society by expanding public employment, creating decent jobs, and reducing youth unemployment. This initiative provides young people with opportunities for meaningful experiential learning, creating social value and empowering them to become active contributors to their communities.

On June 12, 2025, a BEEI-V Stakeholder and Partner Orientation took place in Sun City Resort, Bojanala district. The orientation brought together key partners and stakeholders to enlighten them about the initiative's objectives and progress thus made in the North West province. The orientation sought to secure partnership and explore exit pathways from partners to support the initiative's sustainability.

Honourable MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi emphasized the importance of collaboration, stating that she was excited to meet with stakeholders and partners to see how best the public and private sectors can work together for the youth.

MEC Motsumi also highlighted that BEEI, a component of the Presidential Employment Stimulus, was implemented in 2020. From Phase I-IV, it has created 72 680 job opportunities in the province. While in Phase V it aims to place 13 687 youth in 1 462 schools across the province, where they will be assisting the schools in protecting teaching time by reducing admin tasks.

National Project Manager, Ms Lala Maje underscored the initiative's national significance, while Provincial Project Manager, Dr Carol Letshabo provided insights into the province-specific implementation.

A successful collaboration with Sasol Foundation and Kagiso Trust in Phase IV provided young people with an employment opportunity of 13 months in theory and practical work. This initiative demonstrates the power of collaborative efforts in driving positive change and creating opportunities for the youth. As the program moves forward, it is expected to make a lasting impact on the lives of many young people and the broader community.

The Sasol Foundation and Kagiso Trust beneficiaries in North West are: Nonofo Baakeleng, Alebakwe Mogorosi, Lesedi Tshilo, Tshiamo Nageng, Eva Motseolapile, Morris Shamell, Donald Motlaleemang and Galaletsang Moletsane.

The Basic Education Employment Initiative's impact is expected to be far-reaching, providing young people with valuable work experience and skills, while contributing to the broader goals of economic transformation and social development.

MEC Motsumi was accompanied by Chief of Staff Mr Kagiso Ntshwe, acting Superintendent General, Mr Prince Masilo, acting DDG: IMGS Mr Maropene Seshibe, acting Chief Director Mr Benny Monale and Chief Director Ms Pamla Rasetshwane. Stakeholders and partners that graced the session among a few were: Kgosana Khonou, officials from Department of Basic Education, Industrial Development Corporation, Limpopo BEEI Project Manager, teacher unions and school governing body associations, Vodacom, MTN Foundation, Mbuso Solutions Academy, Kitso ya Boleng Academy, publishers, and NECT.

Stakeholders and partners also pledged to support the implementation of Phase V. Successful applicants will commence work on the 01st of July 2025 in their respective schools and the contract will end in December 2025.



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing the Guests during Stakeholder and Partner Orientation of the BEEI.



Dr Carol Letshabo addressing the Guests during Stakeholder and Partner Orientation of the BEEI Phase V.



Ms. Pamela Rasetshwane addressing the Guests during Stakeholder and Partner Orientation of the BEEI Phase V.



BEEI Phase V members in attendance.



North West Department of Education Officially Hands Over State-of-the-Art Tlakgameng Primary School

By Nonkululeko Sereo



MEC Viola Motsum and Kgosi Etlaaga Moikanyi Kegakilwe unveiling the school plaque

The North West Department of Education, led by MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi, alongside Motseokae Maje, Executive Mayor of Dr. Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality, officially handed over the newly constructed Tlakgameng Primary School in Tlakgameng village.

This milestone marks a significant investment in education, with the school valued at R69.8 million. The newly built Tlakgameng Primary School features 21 classrooms, a fully equipped library, a science laboratory, a Grade R facility, an administration block, security fencing, and a nutrition center, all designed to improve the learning environment for learners. The facility is part of the

department's ongoing commitment to enhancing schools infrastructure across the province.

In her remarks, MEC Motsumi highlighted the critical role of the community and school leadership in maintaining the school's facilities.

"It is essential that we all take collective responsibility to care for this school. I urge the community, learners, and School Governing Bodies to safeguard this school against theft and vandalism," she said.

MEC Motsumi also appealed to all stakeholders to respect the teaching and learning process and avoid disruptions, particularly during service delivery protests.

The handover of Tlakgameng Primary School is one of several planned by MEC Motsumi during Mandela Month, reinforcing the province's dedication to providing quality education and nurturing safe, supportive learning environments.



Classroom block of Tlakgameng Primary School.



Tlakgameng Primary School admin building.



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing officials and community members

Handover of Mokala Primary School

By Oratile Mogodi



MEC Viola Motsum unveiling the school plague.



MEC Viola Motsumi, Cllr Matlhomola Jafta the Mayor for Ratlou Local Municipality, Ms E. Lesetedi during the handover of Mokala Primary School.



Mr. Lengane Bogatsu during the handover of Mokala Primary School at Setlagole Village.

On its quest to restore the dignity of learners in all schools across the province, the North West Department of Education has prioritised the development of infrastructure in farm, rural and township schools throughout the province. That has been MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi's commitment during the tabling of the 2025/2026 Budget Speech on the 22 July 2025, at Provincial Legislature. Following that commitment, the MEC for Education, Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi handed over Mokala Primary School to the community of Setlagole Village on the 29th of July 2025.

It also correlates well with the proclamation made by the North West Premier, Lazarus Mokgosi during the State of the Province Address, on the implementation of various infrastructure projects to create a conducive environment for learning and teaching in schoolsMokala Primary School comprises of 14 classrooms inclusive of a multipurpose classroom, NSNP kitchen, a guardhouse, combi-court, a dining area, science lab, generator as well as water infrastructure. The school currently has 719 pupils with 90 Grade R learners.

In her speech the MEC stated that the school has so far received 20 applications for grade R admission for 2026. She further encouraged the community to apply for their children as per the Basic Education Laws Amendment Act, which states that every child who qualifies to be admitted as a grade R learner should be registered for by September 2025.

This handover was attended by the Kgosikgolo Phoi, Kgosi Mokoto and their entourage, the Superintended General Mr Lengane Bogatsu, the Mayor for Ratlou Municipality, Mr Matlhomola Jafta, Principal Nokuzola March of Mokala Primary school, SGB members, the community and departmental officials.



Learners from Mokala Primary School.



Mec Motsumi Conducts a Site Visit to Batho Batho Primary School

The MEC for the North West Department of Education put everything aside and visited Batho-Batho project to conduct a monitoring visit to the construction site of Batho Batho Primary School in Mareetsane Village, Ratlou Local Municipality.

In November 2023, MEC Motsumi conducted a site handover for the project and officially transferred responsibilities to Kgosi Motshegare, along with his council and the Mareetsane community, to initiate the construction of a school.

This project was scheduled for a construction duration of 18 months. MEC conducted an onsite assessment to evaluate progress and identify potential challenges encountered during the construction phase as the project is nearing its complition.

MEC Motsumi is very impressed with the progress registered to date and the quality of work advanced at the site.

"I am very happy to observe that the building of the school is at a highly advanced stage. The quality of work that has been demonstrated by the constractor gives one courage to announce that the contractor has so far done a wonderful work. I also want to commend the community of Mareetsane for not having disturbed the project through any protest like we sometimes encounter in other communities," said Motsumi.

The recruitment and subconstructing process was also reported fair and transparent to the community members who qualified to do some work during the construction process. As a result, it is clear that the relationship between Kgosi and all stakeholders was very condusive.

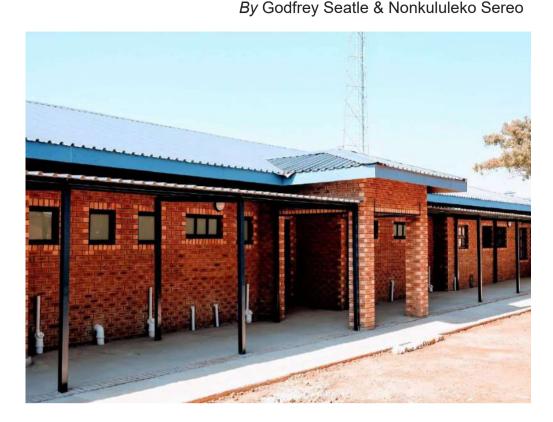
"I am also delighted to observe that most of the subcontractors for the project were women from the community. I want to take this opportunity to thank not only the contractor but the whole community of Barolong ba ga Kgosi Motshegare", Motsumi emphasized.

The allocated amount of more than R59 million was therefore used profitably to benefit the children of the people of Mareetsane.

The contractor reported that the community has demonstrated strong support and has been cooperating effectively with the project team. Recent intense rainfall events resulted in minor delays; however, the project remains ongoing without any human related impediments.

The current scope of work for the construction project encompasses the erection of a Grade R block comprising three classrooms; a science laboratory facility; an administrative block; four classroom blocks, each containing four classrooms; four Heads of Department (HOD) office spaces; a multipurpose center incorporating a computer laboratory and library; an NSNP kitchen with two dining areas; a water storage tank; pump houses; and fire protection infrastructure.

A total of 82 community members are employed through the project, benefiting directly from its initiatives. The Mareetsane community has expressed strong satisfaction and gratitude towards the North West Department of Education for implementing this project, which is expected to enhance the quality of education in the rural village of Mareetsane.



MEC Viola Motsumi monitoring the School furniture at Batho-Batho Primary School.



MEC Viola Motsumi monitoring the school furniture at Batho-Batho Primary School at Mareetsane.



MEC Viola Motsumi monitoring class rooms at Batho-Batho Primary School at Mareetsane.

Education and General School Assistants Reported for Duty on the Reopening of Schools in North West

By Elias Malindi



Ms Tebogo Plaatjie the Acting Principal for Signal Hill in Mafikeng welcoming the youth during the reopening of Schools.

The North West Department of Education is pleased to announce that all Education Assistants and General School Assistants have reported for duty at their respective schools on the reopening of schools on Tuesday, 22 July 2025.

This significant milestone marks the beginning of a new era in supporting teaching and learning in our schools.

The North West province is set to benefit from the services of 13,687 assistants, strategically deployed to support learners and educators. The number of assistants allocated to each school is determined by the school's quintile ranking, with a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 12 assistants per school.

Dr Carol Letshabo, the Basic Education Education Initiative Phase V Provincial Project Manager, would like to inform the assistants that to ensure their success, the Department will provide comprehensive training programs, categorized into eight distinct areas:

Education Assistants:

- Laboratory Assistants
- Workshop Assistants
- Reading Champions

- Curriculum Assistants
- Care and Support Assistants
- ICT Assistants

General School Assistants:

- Sports Enrichment Assistants
- Handyperson

The MEC for Department, Viola Motsumi welcomed the assistants for responding positively to the call "I would like to extend my warm welcome to all the newly appointed assistants and wish them a fruitful journey in our schools. Their participation in the programme will give them a first hand work experience.

"These assistants will play a vital role in supporting our educators and learners, enhancing the overall quality of education in our province. The Department looks forward to working with them to achieve our goals and improve the quality of education for our learners", said MEC Motsumi

The BEEI programme is expected to run for a period of 6 months.





MEC Motsumi Spent Her 67 Minutes at Kloofwaters Primary School

By Elias Malindi



MEC Viola Motsumi painting the wall of Kloofwaters Primary School during Mandela day.

A farm school in Bojanala District near Rustenburg called Kloofwaters Primary School was buzzing during the Nelson Mandela International Day when the North West Department of Education MEC Viola Motsumi and some of the business community descended on the school to spend their 67 minutes on Friday, 18 July 2025.

The Tharisa Mining company, who invited other business companies, brought paints, vegetable seeds, and other materials to benefit the learners at the school.

The MEC for Education, Viola Motsumi, emphasized that the government alone cannot make it without the entire community.

"Today I am very proud for spending my day with learners from the farm school. I am excited to see the number of the private sector companies who came on board to support the school. It truly takes a village to raise a child.

"These learners should not be ashamed by their background, instead they should work hard in their studies. Sometimes the future president of this country or any high-profile individual will come out from places like these. I want them to know that their backgrounds should not determine their success. Education is the key to success", said MEC Motsumi.

MEC Motsumi highlighted that the Department supports all schools in the province irrespective of their location.





Diponono entertaining learners of Kloofwaters Primary School.



Mr Mosime the school principal painting the wall with MEC Viola Motsumi.

MEC's Strengthens Partnership with Stakeholder

By Vuyo Mantshule

The Honourable MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi, together with Departmental Officials, held a follow-up meeting with representatives from Cell C on the 3rd of June 2025.

This meeting forms part of an ongoing collaboration between Cell C and the North West Department of Education, aimed at improving digital access and education in schools—especially those in rural areas. The partnership includes the donation of ICT equipment, the establishment of digital laboratories, and the provision of sponsored data.

This initiative is designed to promote digital literacy and better prepare learners for the future by equipping them with essential digital skills and resources.





MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi with Departmental Officials and Cell C representatives during their Stakeholder engagement.

The New Provincial ECD Director Met Dr RSM Early Childhood Development Practitioners By Boitshoko Kgosietsile

The ECD services Director, Mr O. Mekgwe held a consultation session with all officials performing ECD functions in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District on the 21 st of May 2025.

This session aimed to discuss the strategic objectives of ECD services that can be achieved across the D istrict to ensure quality education the young children Mr Mekgwe was accompanied by his team from the Head O ffice Mrs Tawana, Mrs Botshelo and Mr s Seboka.

Ms O. J Gasealahwe the Chief Education Specialist Curriculum S upport Services,

extended a warm welcome to the attendees on behalf of the District Director She applauded Mr Mekgwe for the sterling job he is doing on his new position as the ECD Services Director for North West P rovince.

Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District overview for the year of 2025 says registered centres are 241: Greate r Taung with 82 registered cent r e s, Kagisano Molopo with 80 registered cent r e s, Naledi with 79 registered centres, while the number of unregistered centres stands on 99 with Greater Taung is leading with more unregistered centres of 51, Kagisano Molopo 9 cent r e s and Naledi with 39 centres.

Also shared the information regarding children accessing registered progr ammes for the of 2025 per local Education Office i.e. Greater Taung: 3475, Kagisano Molopo: 3126 and Naledi: 5772

The successful progress report on the implementation of 0 4 years old was shared during the session:

- 216 ECD centers submitted their business plan for 2025/2026 financial year.
- 54 practioners obtained their NQF level 4 certificates in September 2024.
- 9 ECD centers benefited from maintenance grant for minor renovations

- Ntataise programme trained 25 ECD centers
- 10 ECD centers were identified for 40 ECD pocket of excellence and received educational toys.

During the engagements ECD district officials raised challenges they encounter as practitioners in the D istrict, one leading issue being shortage of staff in each Local Education O ffice. Mr Mekgwe concluded the meeting by assuri ng that all challenges will be attended to, ensure better educational conditions in every ECD centers and conducive working environment for all practitioners.

"Thank you very much for yo ur tireless efforts in shaping the mi nds of our future generations. Your hard work and commitment are crucial in providing a nurturing environment where young children can thrive" he concluded by: Boitshoko environment where young children can thrive" he concluded



Mr Oupa Mekgwe the Acting Director for ECD.



ECD Holds a Successful Strategic

Planning Lekgotla

By Godfrey Seatle

arly Childhood Development Services (ECD) Directorate held a two days successful strategic planning Lekgotla at Palm Swift Guest Lodge in Madibeng Local Municipality, Bojanala District. More than 100 dedicated ECD staff comprising of staff from Corporate Centre, Districts ECD Coordinators, ECD Practitioners, Data Capturers and Social Workers formed part of the delegates who attended the Lekgotla from the 19-20 June 2025.

On the first day of the Lekgotla, the Deputy Director for Strategic Planning, Ms. Conny Moroeng, together with her team, made a presentation to guide the expected strategic direction of ECD on the development of their APP, SOPs, and Operational Plan with specific emphasis on the importance of cycle of reporting, Indicators and POEs. The presentation highlighted the importance of minimizing and avoiding opening a wide window for the Auditor General to identify unfavourable audit findings which may impact negatively in the overall performance of the department.

The acting Director for ECD, Mr Oupa Mekgwe did both the purpose and the way forward of the strategic Lekgotla. He said that the purpose of the Lekgotla was to design a road map that will clearly outline the strategies and objectives that will ultimately align well with the departmental ones. "We are going to come up with actionable activities that will have clear timeframes which are realistic, integrated and that will respond appropriately to service delivery challenges we encounter as ECD Directorate. We will leave here with a shared and common understanding on how to navigate through challenges and report regularly to the authorities at National and Provincial level" outlined Mr Mekgwe.

In his closing remarks, Mr Oupa Mekgwe said that "I further like to extend my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you for your active participation, insight contributions, and commitment throughout our engagements. Over the past sessions, we have covered critical areas including the development and refinement of or ANNUAL Performance Plans, the review of our Standard Operating Procedures, and the standardization of our Reporting Template.

A special word of appreciation goes to those who led and participated in the commissions.

The District Managers: MS Olorato Kgosimore(RSM), Martha Paadi(NMMD), Ditshele Tau(Bojanala) and Rre Sediane Motaung from Dr Kenneth Kaunda). The quality of your work, the depth of your discussions, and the clarity of your recommendations have laid a strong foundation into our collective path forward. Let us now take what we have developed here and translate it into action-ensuring alignment, excellence, and most importantly, better outcomes for the children and communities we serve", concluded Mr Mekgwe.



Officials from ECD attending the Strategic Planning Lekgotla.



Mr Oupa Mekgwe the Acting Director for ECD.



Ms Conny Moroeng presenting during the Strategic Planning of Lekgotla.



Ms. Vivian Njingolo addressing the audience.



MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi North West Department of Education

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"Let's Grow North West Together"





Electricity Restored In 5 Schools of Ditsobotla Municipality

By Elias Malindi

The North West Department of Education is pleased to announce that electricity has been restored to five schools and two offices in the Ditsobotla Local Municipality as of Monday, 28 July 2025. This development is expected to significantly improve the learning environment and operational efficiency in the affected institutions. The department remains committed to ensuring that all schools and offices function effectively in the delivery of quality education.

In the efforts of salvaging the situation in the area. The Superintendent-General of the Department of Education Mr Lengane Bogatsu met with representatives from affected schools of Ditsobotla Local Education Office, the Department of Public Works, and the Ditsobotla Local Municipality to discuss the recent electricity cut-offs in certain schools.

The affected schools and offices were Laerskool Lichtenburg, Laerskool Burgersdorp, Lichtenburg English Secondary, Yusuf Dadoo Memorial Primary and Shukran Primary School, Lichtenburg Circuit Office and Local Education Offices.

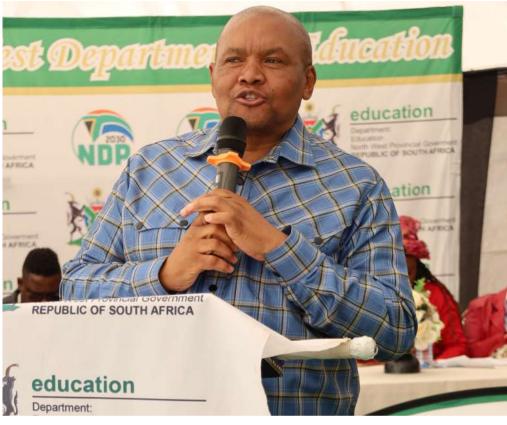
The meeting successfully identified the challenges which caused the problem. All the affected Departments committed in addressing the outstanding backlogs to the Ditsobotla local Municipality.

The Superintendent-General, Lengane Bogatsu emphasized that electricity disconnection will have a negative impact on the results of the affected schools.

"As the Department we were extremely concerned about the electricity disconnection experienced by the five schools and the offices. We were shocked to learn that some of the schools which were disconnected didn't owe the municipality. The electricity disconnection was affecting schools negatively in their

performance. It also exposedthem to burglary activities from the criminals. This year the Department is targeting 95% performance in the matric results but such disconnection will lead to poor performance", said Mr Bogatsu.

The Department resolved that schools should update their accounts with the municipality on regular basis.



The Superintendent General, Lengane Bogatsu addressing the Officials of Ditsobotla Local Municipality, affected school principals and Department of Public Works

North West Schools Ready to Reopen for Third Term

By: Bayanda Zenzile

The North West Department of Education is pleased to announce its readiness to reopen schools for the third quarter of the 2025 academic year, following the winter break.

MEC for Education Viola Motsumi extends her heartfelt appreciation to the school community for their role in ensuring a productive and safe school environment during the holidays. Motsumi commends school principals, teachers, and Grade 12 learners for their commitment to the success of the winter camps held across the province. These camps were aimed at intensifying academic revision and improving learner performance ahead of the final examinations for the Class of 2025.

"I wish to take this time to thank principals, teachers, and the class of 2025 for their dedication shown during the winter camps as we approach the final stretch of the academic year. I also thank the parents and guardians for providing care and support to younger learners during the school holidays, ensuring their safety and wellbeing while schools were closed. As schools reopen, I urge all parents to ensure that learners return to school on the very first day of the new term which is Tuesday, 22 July 2025. The third quarter is a critical period and we want to hit the ground running to strengthen learner performance across all grades," says Motsumi.

The Department has completed all necessary preparations to ensure a smooth reopening, including the readiness of school infrastructure, learner-teacher support materials (LTSM), scholar transport, and school nutrition services.

Motsumi wishes all learners and teachers a productive and focused start to the third term.





Mec Motsumi Congratulates The Newly Elected NW SAPA Pec

By Elias Malindi

The North West Department of Education MEC, Viola Motsumi, has congratulated the newly elected North West South African Principals Association Provincial Executive Committee on Sunday, 27 July 2025.

The North West SAPA conference, which took place over two days, concluded with the election of the new PEC. The conference in the two days embarked on intensive discussions which are aimed at improving the quality of education in the province.



MEC Viola Motsumi and Mr Lengane Bogatsu together with the mombers of SAPA.

The delegates who constituted of Deputy and Principals came from all the four districts. This structure is non-aligned to any political organisation and its intention is to improve the quality of education in the province by sharing good practices.

The NW SAPA Provincial Executive Committee is as follows:

- President from NMM Mr. Tseko Masina.
- Deputy from Dr KK Mr. Shadrack Seetane.
- Treasurer from Dr RSM Mrs. Primrose Kgololosego.
- Secretary General from Dr KK Mr. Mokgethi Masenya.
- Deputy Secretary from NMM Esther Moetsi

The conference concluded by awarding the outgoing and the founding President of SAPA Mr Lesiba Pila with the Honorary Presidency Award. Mr Lesiba Pila who has been a school principal since 1985 could not hide his emotions when he received the award.

"This is a serious surprise which I have never thought about in my entire life. I am a child of this province and I will continue to contribute to the improvement of education even when I have retired. I wish all the best to the newly elected committee", said Mr Pila.

The MEC for Education, Viola Motsumi emphasized that hard work has started for the newly elected provincial committee.



The newly elected NW SAPA Provincial Executive Committee.

"The role of school principals is crucial in shaping the future of education in the province. SAPA plays a vital role in empowering school leaders through professional development, exchange of best practices, and advocacy for policies that improve education. We wish the newly elected PEC all the best in their endeavors to enhance educational leadership in the North West province. The elected committee should not relax instead they should continue to work hard. I want to assure them my total support and my door will always be open", said MEC Motsumi.

The North West SAPA delegation is expected to attend the national conference to be held in Qeberha on 12 September 2025.

MEC Motsumi Emphasized on Unity Amongst the School Principals

By Elias Malindi

The North West Department of Education MEC, Viola Motsumi attended the North West province South African Principals Association (SAPA) conference held at the Naledi Local Municipality Banquet Hall in Vryburg on Friday, 25 July 2025.

The South African Principals
Association conference is
attended by school Principals and
Deputy Principals whose schools
are affiliated with the structure.
The SAPA was formed in 1995
in the Western Cape to deal with
issues affecting Principals.

The South African Principals
Association (SAPA) is a
professional organization that
focuses on empowering school
leaders in South Africa. It provides
a platform for principals to engage
in professional development,
exchange best practices, and
advocate for policies that improve
education.

Mr Lesiba Pila, the School Principal for Runatang Primary in Rustenburg and the outgoing North West President of SAPA, who has worked for the Department of Education for 44 years, emphasized that the Departmental support is extremely essential in achieving their goals.

"As school Principals, we appreciate the support that the Department is giving to us. I believe that even after I have left this position, the new leadership will make an even greater impact on our communities," said President Pila.

The MEC for Education, Viola Motsumi, urged the school Principals to be united.

"One of the most important principles that will help us to improve the results is unity. We should strive to be united and be able to share good practices with top-performing schools. Our Principals work under severe pressure. As a Department, we should learn to engage with them to understand what they are going through. They are the ones who operate on the frontline of service delivery. The status quo needs to change; as Department, we should support our Principals at all costs," said MEC Motsumi.

MEC Motsumi further instructed the Superintendent General of the Department to provide Information and Communication Technology gadgets to all Principals.



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing the SAPA delegates.



Former NW SAPA President, Mr. Lesiba Pils.



MEC Viola Motsumi and Mr. Lesiba Pila.



Left to Right: Ms Mojakhumo Dithejane, Mr Lesiba Pila, MEC Viola Motsumi and Mr Lengane Bogatsu.



North West Education Strengthens Learner Support with Vehicle Handover to Special Schools

By Oratile Mogodi

The North West Department of Education, through its Learner Social Support Services Directorate, on Tuesday, 12 August 2025, officially handed over five vehicles to four special schools in the province during a ceremony held in Mahikeng to improve access to medical care and strengthen learner support for children with disabilities.

This intervention forms part of the Department's ongoing commitment to inclusive education, ensuring that learners with disabilities have timely access to healthcare and safe, reliable transportation for school activities.



District officials together with Transport Officials and Special School unit during the handover.

The beneficiary schools are:

- Tlamelang Special School in Ngaka Modiri Molema District
- Lilian Lehetla Special School in Bojanala District
- LM Mokoena Special School in Bojanala District
- Reoleboge Special School in Bojanala District

All four schools cater to learners with severe intellectual disabilities and will now be better equipped to respond to health emergencies, transport learners safely, and manage daily operations more effectively.

This intervention follows a departmental assessment which revealed that some learners face recurring medical challenges requiring urgent healthcare access. In the past, transportation delays hindered schools from responding promptly to emergencies.

MEC for Education in the North West Province, Viola Motsumi, says the vehicles represent a tangible commitment by the Department to protect the dignity and well-being of learners.

"Our vision of inclusive education is not just about classrooms, it is about ensuring that every learner's well-being is prioritised. These vehicles will give our special schools the means to respond swiftly to emergencies, and the assurance that no child will be left without the care they deserve. This is more than a handover; it is a commitment to dignity, safety, and equal opportunity for all our learners," says MEC Motsumi.

By addressing mobility challenges, the Department is taking a crucial step towards creating an enabling and responsive learning environment for all learners, regardless of ability. The vehicles will also reduce the operational burden on schools, allowing educators to focus more on teaching and learner development.



Special scvhool official receing the vehicle.



Vehicles handed over to special schools.

Handover Of Vehicles To NSNP Offices

By Nonkululeko Sereo



A fleet of seven allocated NSNP vehicles.

National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) is a government initiative that provides Learners with nutritious meal per day in no fee paying schools. These meals compose of starch (pap, rice, stamp), protein (fish, soya, beans, milk) fresh fruits and vegetables The NSNP supports learners in maintaining regular school attendance, improving concentration, and enhancing overall learning capacity.

On 18 August 2025, the Provincial programme manager Mr Richard Mogorosi handed over seven Ford Ranger vehicles to the value of R2.6 million to the NSNP districts and local education offices.

The vehicles allocation is as follows:

- Ngaka Modiri Molema district office,
- Tswaing Local Education Office,
- Ramotshere Moilwa LEO,
- Bojanala district office,
- Rustenburg LEO,
- Madibeng LEO and
- Greater Taung LEO.

Mr Titus Seboko, Learner Social Support Services director outlined that one of the findings from Auditor General was that there was little monitoring of NSNP in schools. He highlights that with the handover of these vehicles, NSNP officials will be able to ensure that there is intensive monitoring and support as the schools will be easily accessible.

The recipients of the vehicles were encouraged by the NSNP manager, Mr Mogorosi to take care of the vehicles and treat them as their own transport. He also emphasised that these vehicles are for the sole purpose of NSNP only.

The transport manager Mr Tinye, reminded beneficiaries that they should ensure that route forms are authorised before a trip. They should also keep a record of the monitoring plan, route form and petrol slips.

One of the beneficiaries, Ms Lorato Maise from Ramotshere Moilwa LEO stated that it is an honour and privilege for their office to be allocated such a vehicle as their service area is rural and it will enable them to visit schools even in deeper rural areas



The Director Mr Sebok{right} accompanied by beneficiaries and Mr Tinye including Mr Mogorosi(left side respectively).



Beneficiaries of NSNP vehicles.



Mosiami Mildred Mogapi Primary School Under13 Girls Soccer Team Clinches Provincial Title

By: Tshegofatso Molopyane



Mosiami Mildred Mogapi Primary School team posing with the with the school management.

Mosiami Mildred Mogapi Primary School, located in Ngaka Modiri Molema District within the Mafikeng Local Education Office, was recognized on August 16th, 2025, at North West University Mafikeng Campus for their achievement in winning the prestigious Sanlam Kay Motsepe Foundation Championship.

The Under-13 girls soccer team from Mosiami Mildred Mogapi commenced their successful season at the Central Cluster level, defeating B.M Mokitime 4-0. They continued their impressive performance at the Local Education Office level, securing a draw against Tlale Primary and a victory over Regomoditswe Primary, while also competing strongly against Mokaila Primary.

Their success persisted at the District level, reinforcing the school's tradition of excellence. Despite facing significant challenges at the Provincial level, the team demonstrated resilience and determination, ultimately being crowned the North West Champions. This achievement awarded them R100,000 in prize money, gold medals, and the privilege to represent the North West region at the National finals.

The team's success was made possible through the leadership and support of Principal Ms. BP Nchoe, Head Coach Mr. K Dikgang, Assistant Coach Mr. L Mokgoweetsi, Miss K Senna, Miss K Monnapula, and their 12-year-old captain Neo Mphaphang, who was recognized as the top scorer.

The Ngaka Modiri Molema Acting District Director, Ms. E.M Lesetedi, along with the District Chief Education Specialist for School Enrichment, Mr. T Mmolai, and Mr. A.S Moeti, the Circuit Manager, visited the school to commend their outstanding performance throughout the championship and to extend their best wishes for continued success at the upcoming National finals.



Mosiami Mildred Mogapi Primary School team posing with their cheque and trophy after winning the Sanlam Kay Motsepe Foundation Championship.



Departmental Official congratulating Mosiami Mildred Mogapi Primary School after winning the Sanlam Kay Motsepe Foundation Championship.

Kanana Primary School are the Under 13 Provincial SANLAM Kay Motsepe School Soccer Champions

By: Peter Phamodi



Dr. Kenneth Kaunda management congradulating Kanana Primary School.

The Kanana Primary School; District under 13 male football team made the district proud by lifting the trophy once again. Thus, the school proceeds to the National Level to represent the entire province. Importantly, as a motivating incentive, the school a whopping voucher of R100 000.00 from Motsepe Foundation and a trophy for making it to the nationals.

Therefore, the team will be competing at the National stage from the 07th To the 11th October 2025, representing the North West Province. The competition will be held at Tshwane University of Technology in Pretoria (TUT).

The Acting District Director and the entire Dr. Kenneth Kaunda Education District officials wish the school all of the best in their endeavour to conquer the South African under 13 Sanlam Kay Motsepe Soccer Tournament.

Go boys, go and bring the glory to the province...



Dr. Kenneth Kaunda management and Kanana Primary School management celebrating the school team achievement.



Dr. Kenneth Kaunda management congradulating Kanana Primary School Team after winning the Sanlam Kay Motsepe Foundation Championship

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