

Congratulations

North West

Matric Class of 2025

For achieving an outstanding
Matric Pass Rate of

88.49%

MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi
North West Department of Education



education

Department:
Education
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

"Let's Grow
North West Together"



NORTH WEST
2026
NSC EXAMINATION RESULTS

ADDRESS BY THE MEC FOR EDUCATION
MRS NTSETSAO VIOLA MOTSUMI (MPL)
ON THE OCCASION
OF THE
RELEASE OF THE 2026 NSC EXAMINATION RESULTS
ON 13 JANUARY 2026 AT
RUTANANG PRIMARY SCHOOL,
RUSTENBURG, BOJANALA DISTRICT

Programme Director

Speaker of the Legislature, Hon. Desbo Mohono

Premier of the Province, Hon. Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi

Provincial Chairperson of the House of Traditional Leaders, Kgosi O.T.S. Maotwe

Magosi otlhe arona aleng teng mo letsatsing la gompieno.

All Members of Executive Council here present

Members of the Portfolio Committee on Education, Arts, Culture, Sports and Recreation

Executive Mayor of Bojanala District, Cllr Suzan Dikeledi Nhangeni

Mayor of Rustenburg Local Municipality, Cllr Sheila Mabale-Huma

All councillors from various Districts and Local Municipalities present here

Superintendent General of the Department of Education, Mr Lengana Bogatsu and all Departmental Officials

All Senior Managers of the Department

My beloved parents, Mr and Mrs Jabanyane, my husband Mr Rainy Motsumi - I salute you

Leaders in various structure levels of the governing party, the African National Congress

Leaders of political parties of the GNU and other parties

2025 National Teaching Awards Winners

All Subject Advisors, Circuit Managers, Curriculum Coordinators in all levels

School Principals

Parents of learners

Our special guests, the Class of 2025

All sponsors and representatives of the business Community

All Officials

Members of the media,

Distinguished guests, friends, comrades and compatriots

Ladies and gentlemen

Bagaetsho Dumelang

Lo amogelesile mo letsatsing la gompiano la boitumelo.

PREAMBLE

Programme Director, our son from the North West Province who has been acting on Skeem Saam a very popular soapy in the country and I am proud of you. I took this bold decision to give you this responsibility because you are the future of this province. This event is about the young people of this province and we should assign them the responsibility to learn to be in the for front. I challenge everyone that we should utilize the services of these young people.

Honourable Premier, I must admit, this is one of the most elegant audience I have ever seen and addressed in the province. The venue is remarkably beautiful and everyone is well adorned and dressed to impress – all in honour of our special guests – the Class of 2025.

Ladies and gentlemen, give yourselves a round of applause - you look exceptionally awesome!

INTRODUCTION

Programme Director, Honourable Premier, ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to declare the official release of the North West 2025 National Senior Certificate Examination Results.

The timing of this event is impeccable as it is held just a few days after the ANC's 114th birthday celebrations, the rally for which was held on 10 January 2026 right in this Bojanala District at Moruleng Stadium.

The ANC Manifesto for 2024 states that, there is no society that can prosper without investing in the capabilities of all its citizens. Education, health and science and technology remain key areas through which the society can be transformed for the better. Over the past three decades, a comprehensive framework for the transformation of basic education, the post school education and training system, health as well as our system of innovation, have been put in place. This has been a process of great movements forward, as well as setbacks. Education and health are now a national priority. Science, technology and innovation have been constantly placed in the centre of social and economic development. Evidence to these priorities is witnessed on days like these.

Without speaking highly of the African National Congress, which is documented as is the oldest liberation movement in Africa, it is the only party in the democratic South Africa which carries the hopes of "the poorest of the poor" with its unprecedented and unmatched pro-poor programmes, which are implemented in the education sector and across all government departments.

Ladies and gentlemen, **Kofi Annan** the former United Nation Secretary-General, described knowledge as power, information as liberating, and education as the basis for progress in all aspects of society. He also called education a human right essential for freedom, democracy, and sustainable human development.

As I stated repeatedly, since my assumption of duty in December 2022 as the MEC for Education, the North West Department of Education is a system destined to rise to greater heights.

Filled with vigour and determination, like a phoenix, it will continue rise from the ashes to reclaim its lost glory in the basic education sector.

PROFILE OF THE 2025 GRADE 12 COHORT

The Class of 2025 is the eleventh cohort of learners to write the CAPS-aligned National Seniors Certificate (NSC) Examinations. The group enrolled for Grade 1 in 2014 when the NSC was written for the sixth time at Grade 12.

The candidates are the second matric class of the seventh administration, which took over the reins in June 2024.

VALIDITY AND CREDIBILITY OF THE 2025 NSC EXAMINATION RESULTS

The UMALUSI Council for quality assurance in General and Further Education and Training has approved and declared the 2025 NSC Examinations results on the 07 January 2026 as credible and fair .

OVERVIEW OF THE PROVINCIAL PERFORMANCE

Ladies and Gentlemen, the NSC Examination results of the province over for the past six years were as follows: In 2019, obtained 86.8% (position 4), 2020, we dropped to 76.0% (position 3), 2021, we rose to 78.6% (position 4), and in 2022, we achieved 79.8% (position 5) and in 2023 the province attained 81,63% (position 4) in 2024 the province attained 87,52% (position 4)

Programme Director, Ladies and Gentlemen, following a rigorous support given to schools and learners for 2025, the results of the Class of 2025 increased by 0,9% from the previous year therefore obtaining 88,49%.

Class of 2025 has broken new grounds by increasing the previous pass percentage to simulate the Class of 2019 and ensuring that they add quality in their final examination results.

From 2024 results when they were in grade 11, they were performing exceptionally well and when tracking them during their 2025 grade 12 year, they consistently performed well during their quarterly performance as it remained above 80% in the three quarters.

To indicate that there was quality passes in our results, the number of candidates who passed with admission to Bachelor Studies has slightly decreased from 18 279 (45,05%) to 18 166 (44,4%) of the Class of 2024, the admission to Diploma studies has also improved to 12142 (29,78%) which is similar to 11455 (28,23%) of 2024, and to further demonstrate their sharp appetite for quality over quantity, the number of those who passed with Higher Certificate has improved to 5 896(17,42%) in relation to 5772 (14,23%) of 2024.

The males performance for 2025 is 89,11%, as related to females with 88,00% but it should be noted that the males have achieved less in relation to females to admission to degree studies.

As part of social responsibility of the department, learners in no fee schools have improved their performance to 87,01% and the paying schools they are performing at 89,53% comparatively the non paying schools are fully comparable to the paying schools

Ladies and gentlemen, the North West Class of 2025 did not end there with its amazing performance improvement.

They scored a total of 8050 distinctions in various subjects, excluding Life Orientation, compared to 7901 of the previous year.

Although we are not yet where we are supposed to be, specifically in terms of the pass rate and position on the NSC league table, this milestone achievement represents our resolve and potential to keep on rising to greater heights.

Yes, we can do it! Holding each other's hand, we can grow the North West Department of Education Together.

PERFORMANCE OF THE DISTRICTS

Now let us turn to a brief breakdown of the 2025 NSC Examination results per district. In ascending order, the performance of the Class of 2024 per district compared to their predecessors can be presented as follows:

Position	District	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025			Difference
						WROTE	PASSED	%	
4	Ngaka Modiri Molema	75,2	78,37	78,97%	85,71	9969	8534	85,61%	-0,10%
3	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti	72,9	76,79	77,16%	84,72	6086	5305	87,17%	2,45%
2	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	79,3	80,78	83,51%	87,78	7049	6192	87,84%	0,06%
1	Bojanala	81,6	81,4	84,24%	89,40	17809	16174	90,82%	1,42%

It is pleasing to announce that all districts have improved their pass rate compared to the previous year.

Congratulations to all District Directors and their teams for the job well done. Your tireless efforts have paid off!

LOCAL EDUCATION OFFICE PERFORMANCE

The best performing local education offices are Madibeng at 92,46%, followed by Moses Kotane with 92.21%, Rustenburg at 90.53% as the top three.

The most improved local education office is Lekwa Teemane local education office in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti from 79,6% to 89.61% which is an improvement of 10%.

Only one local education offices have performed below 80% namely Kgetleng River at 76,69 which is a decline from 2024 at 79,0%.

CIRCUIT PERFORMANCE

The best performing circuit is Kopano circuit in Madibeng with 95,36% in 2025 and were at 95,70% in 2024 this is a decline from 2024 but still keeping the top performance followed by Bokamoso circuit in Rustenburg and Dinaledi in Moses Kotane with 93,88%.

The most improved circuit is Manthe circuit in Greater Taung from 73,77% in 2024 to 89,08% in 2025 an improvement of 15,35%.

TOP PERFORMING CANDIDATE

Programme Director, Honourable Premier, allow me to announce the best performing candidate for the North West Class of 2025. The candidate obtained calculated marks excluding Life Orientation scored 1727 marks in the best six subjects from Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District and the school is Setswakgosing Secondary which is a quintile 2 school, let us give a standing ovation to Temogo Matong as we invite him to ascend the stage.

With regard to Special Schools .

I am thrilled to announce that two of the four schools have attained 100%. Our partnership with Road Accident Fund will see the top candidates in this category receiving full scholarship for University study and assistive devices.

OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF SCHOOLS

Ladies and gentlemen, a remarkable improvement has also been realised in the overall performance of schools.

In 2025, there are 45 schools that have achieved 100% pass rate as compared to 44 schools in 2024, and 331 schools have attained a pass rate between 80 to 99% compared to 358 in 2024.

TOP PERFORMING SCHOOLS

We have three categories of top performing schools:

- a) highest number of subject distinctions;
- b) highest number of candidates who qualify for admission to Bachelor studies;
- c) the highest pass rate.

To accommodate the small schools, the quality categories have been split into two sub-categories, one with percentages and one with actual numbers.

In the category of Top Performing Schools based on highest number of subject distinctions (excluding Life Orientation), in ascending order we have -

- In Position 3, Wesvalia high school for girls with 159 subject distinctions,
- Position 2, Rustenburg High with 163 subject distinctions, and
- Position 1 goes to Potchefstroom Gimnasium with 276 subject distinctions.

The second category for top performing schools are schools that achieved the most subject distinctions (80-100%), excluding Life Orientation. The percentage distinctions achieved is calculated out of the total of possible subjects of the school.

Here we have –

- In Position 3, Potchefstroom Girls High with 22,53% (137)distinctions
- Position 2, Potchefstroom Gimnasium 22,94% (276) distinctions , and
- Position 1 goes to Ferdinand Postma with 23,37% (104).

In the third category of top performing schools, which focuses on quality – Admission to Bachelor Degree Studies, the top three schools with the highest percentage of candidates who achieved admission to Degree Studies are:

- In Position 3, Ferdinand Postma high School with 73 candidates attaining 100,00%,
- Position 2, New Covenant Academy with 7 candidates attaining 100%, and
- Position 1 goes to Letlopi Secondary with 7 candidates obtaining 100% admission to bachelor studies.

In the same category are the schools with the highest number of candidates who qualified for admission to Degree Studies; and these are:

- Position 3, Potchefstroom Gimnasium with 180 out of its 199 candidates passed with Bachelors,
- In position 2, we have Thuto Pele Secondary School with 187 out of 310 candidates attaining Bachelors, and
- Position 1 goes to Rustenburg High School where 295 of its 244 candidates passed with Bachelors.

In the category of best performing school for 2025

- Position 3 we have Wesvalia in Matlosana with 163 candidates all achieving, then
- Position 2 we have B. A Seobi Secondary with 182 candidates all achieving and
- Position 1 goes to Potchefstroom Gimnasium in J.B Marks with 199 candidates from 199 achieving a 100% pass..

UNDERPERFORMING SCHOOLS (SCHOOLS WITH A PASS RATE BELOW 70%)

Ladies and gentlemen, for 2025 we worked hard to reduce the number of underperforming schools by having dedicated sessions with principals from these schools, targeted interventions with learners. Thanks to those principals, learners, teachers and the schooling community who heeded to our call and assisted us.

Unfortunately there is an increase in the number of schools which are underperforming, this was contributed by the monitoring of retention of candidates in the phase.

From the 106 underperforming schools of 2022, 73 schools in 2023 ,only 28 schools in 2024 and in 2025 the number of schools whose overall pass rate is below 70% are 37 which is an increase with eight schools.

We are determined to eradicate this sector of schools to ensure that ninety to hundred percent of our schools are fully functional.

Programme Director, allow me at this point to advise those candidates who were not successful in the 2025 NSC examinations should not despair. There is still hope to succeed the second time around through the Second Chance Matric Programme, which is intended to provide them with the opportunity and support to enable them to meet the requirements of the National Senior Certificate. For 2025 only 4 708 candidates did not achieve and all can be enrolled in the programme to write in June 2026.

CONDOLENCES

Programme Director, allow me to take this opportunity to convey our heartfelt condolences to the families of all learners whose lives were tragically cut short while they were on their journey to completing their matric qualification. As the North West Department of Education, we are deeply touched by the passing of these learners, and we pray that their families may find strength and comfort from the Almighty during this difficult time.

As a Department, we have conveyed our condolences in cases that were reported to us. However, we acknowledge that there may be other incidents that did not reach our attention, and to those families as well, we extend our sincere sympathies.

What is particularly heartbreaking is that some of these learners sat for and completed their final examinations, yet they are not able to receive the results that are being released today. As we continue with life, we are reminded that none of us knows the day or the hour when we will depart from this world.

Allow me to comfort the families with the words of Scripture from Psalm 34:18, which says, “The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” I am confident that the Almighty God will grant you comfort that no human being can give—comfort that only He can provide.

Today, I have invited the family of the late Onalenna Booi, who was a learner at Tiego Tawana Secondary School in Mafikeng. He wrote and completed his examinations like all other learners. Sadly, we received the heartbreaking news that he passed away on 30 December 2025. Upon receiving these news, I made a commitment to personally hand over his Statement of Results and the Certificate of Recognition to his family today. I would now like to invite the parents of the late Onalenna Booi to come forward to the stage to receive his Statement of Results and Certificate of Recognition

I have also invited the family of the late Donald Boitumelo Maje, who was a learner at Realeka Secondary School in Ottosdal, under the Ngaka Modiri Molema District. Although we did not receive the sad news of his passing in time, we nevertheless wish to convey our heartfelt condolences to the family. Donald wrote and completed his examinations like all other Grade

12 learners. We later learned that he met his untimely passing on 30 December 2025 in Ottosdal. May I kindly invite the family to come forward to the stage to receive his Statement of Results and Certificate of Recognition from the North West Department of Education.

I will now call upon the principals of Grade 12 learners who passed on during the 2025 academic year to come forward to the stage to receive the Certificates of Recognition. These certificates will be handed over to the respective families upon their return to their schools.

APPRECIATION

Programme Director,

At this point, allow me to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the following:

The African National Congress, for entrusting me with the responsibility of serving as the Executive Authority of such a large and important department. The unwavering support I receive from the leadership across all its structures, together with its Alliance partners, to ensure that I succeed in carrying out this mammoth task is truly commendable.

I also wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the dedicated and hardworking team of men and women at all levels of the Department, under the leadership of the Superintendent-General, Mr Lengana Bogatsu, for their commitment and tireless efforts. Programme Director, the pride of being part of this winning team continues to swell my heart.

All stakeholders including, but are not limited, business and mining houses, School Governing Bodies and their associations, South Africa Principals Association (SAPA), organised Labour Unions for their various forms of invaluable support.

The invaluable support we receive as the department from our sponsors:

- MTN Foundation,
- Telkom Foundation,
- Vodacom in association with Huawei,
- Cell C,
- Lebone Litho printers,
- Harmony Gold mining,
- SAICA with bursaries for accounting candidates of R840 000.00 per candidate for 4 years,
- Fundi,

- Rosewood Country Lodge,
- Protea Hotel, Marriot Klerksdorp
- Macmillan Education,
- Oxford University Press
- Maskew Miller
- Mochwanaesi Foundation
- Rebone Furniture,
- Industrial Development Corporations (IDC) with bursaries of LSEN candidates of R30 000.00 per learner,
- Old Mutual,
- Road Accident Fund (RAF) for the full bursary of LSEN candidates with provision of Assistive devices
- the Premier's Office for 20 bursaries for top candidates from Q1 -3.
- Tshwane TV for live coverage and assistance with sound System

We would like to thank you all on behalf of our learners.

Go bogosi jwa rona, boo bo rategang and ebile bo tlotlega, for your continued cooperation and support,

Baruti ba rona go re baya mo dithapelong.

To my husband, Rre Kgotso Rainy Motsumi and my children, I am eternally thankful for your continuous support and sacrifices. In the same vein, I wish to appreciate my parents for their continued guidance. You remain my fountain of wisdom.

To the Class of 2025, teachers, principals, Subject Advisors, Circuit Managers and all officials the resilience you demonstrated against all odds make you remain a force to be reckoned with.

Honourable Premier, we embarked on the Easter, Winter and Autumn camps including the incubation camps to assist learners with revision. Our educators went on an extra mile to conduct extra classes after school and on weekends to support the Grade 12 learners. We are extremely grateful of these efforts put by our educators in school.

As the department, we cannot succeed in ensuring that schooling runs uninterrupted without the support and cooperation of our communities. Education remains a societal matter.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion let me salute all those officials including the teachers who retired in 2025 and those who will be retiring this year. On behalf of the North West Department of Education I really recognize and appreciate your contribution to these results. I wish you a well-deserved, restful, and rewarding retirement.

May peace continue to reign upon their souls!

I thank you!