

EDU-NEWS

January - March 2026 - Edition

Be Informed.... News From Staff to Staff



HUMAN RIGHT'S DAY PROVINCIAL GALA Page 5



North West Department of Education engages in a Strategic Planning session to develop new plans for the future Page 8



A Call to Excellence: Director General's Visit to Bojanala District Page 36



education

Department:
Education
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Building a North West Province That Works for All"

Table of Content

HUMAN RIGHTS 'DAY PROVINCIAL GALA	5
North West Department of Education engages in a Strategic Planning session to develop new plans for the future	8
Porefense Ya Bokone Bophirima E Dirile Hisetori Mo Dipholong Tsa Serutwa Sa Setswana Puogae	15
North West Department of Education hosts Provincial Schools Arts and Culture Championships	18
St Mary's Secondary School Multipurpose Sports Ground Handover	24
North West Education Department Marks World Obesity Day with School Awareness Programme	30
A Call to Excellence: Director General's Visit to Bojanala District	36
Learner Pregnancy Prevention And Management Dialogue In Kagisano Molopo	48
North West Province Crowned As The Top Province In The 2026 Sasa Li Championships	55

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Editorial Comment



Elias Malindi
Acting Director For Communication

Welcome to this edition as we find ourselves at a unique and significant intersection which is the final quarter of the 2025/2026 financial year and at the same time, the first quarter of the academic year.

In government, this period marks a time of reflection, accountability and closure. It is when institutions take stock of the year that has passed, measure performance, and ensure that commitments made are fulfilled. During this quarter, departments also host strategic planning sessions aimed at mapping the way forward for the year ahead.

In our schools, however, this quarter represents a beginning. It is a time of discovery and connection, where teachers engage with learners, build

relationships, and lay the foundation for the journey ahead. The work done now shapes the success of the entire academic year.

As we navigate this important period, we are reminded of the balance between reflection and renewal, closing one chapter while intentionally building the next.

The Communication Directorate has had the pleasure of covering a range of activities across different districts within the province. We encourage our readers to rely on this publication, which serves as the voice of our internal staff. All key developments within the department are communicated through this platform.

We encourage the Staff members who wish to make an input to all the activities of the department, they should feel free to send the to Emalindi@nwed.gov.za or Gseatle@nwed.gov.za.

Enjoy reading this publication!

***“Building a North West Province
That Works for All”***

Message from MEC



MEC
Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi

The analysis of the 2025 Grade 11 results during our Curriculum Delivery Enhancement Strategic Session has given us a clear and honest reflection of the state of our education system in the North West Province. While there are pockets of progress that must be acknowledged, the analysis has also revealed areas of serious concern where the system has not performed at the expected level.

We must be honest and say that the future of our learners is important and can not be compromised by inefficiency or a lack of accountability. Where Local Education Offices and support structures have failed to deliver on their responsibilities, the department will not hesitate to implement firm and decisive turnaround interventions. The era of tolerance towards underperformance is coming to an end.

The interests of our learners must always take precedence over comfort zones within the system. Every official in the department from district offices, circuits, and school leadership carries a direct responsibility to ensure that the machinery of education functions effectively and delivers results.

District Directors, Circuit Managers, and School Leadership Teams must lead from the front and not from behind reports and paperwork. Curriculum monitoring must be intensified, learner support programmes must be strengthened, and resources must be directed decisively to the schools and learners that need them the most.

Our schools must never feel abandoned by the system that is meant to support them.

Where learners struggle, the department must respond with urgency and practical support. Where schools require intervention, the system must act without delay. And where there is clear failure within the system, there must be consequences and accountability.

The time for complacency has passed. What is required now is discipline, commitment, and unwavering dedication to the mission of building a high-performing education system.

Our learners are not just numbers on a spreadsheet or statistics in reports. They are future doctors, engineers, teachers, entrepreneurs, and leaders of our province. Their success must remain the central focus of everything we do.

As the North West Department of Education, we are committed to ensuring that 2026 becomes a year of renewed energy, strengthened oversight, uncompromising accountability, and visible improvement in learner performance across the province.

Message from HOD's Desk



**Mr Lengane Bogatsu
Superintendent General**

Welcome to our publication, this publication help us to share information with all our stakeholders in the province. Since assuming my duty as Superintendent General of the North West Department of Education nine months ago, I have gained critical insight into the Department's operational environment, policy framework, and strategic priorities.

This period has provided an opportunity to align my perspective with the Department's mandate of delivering equitable, quality education and improving learner outcomes across the province. The scale and complexity of the Department's responsibilities require a coordinated, accountable, and results-driven approach.

The commitment demonstrated by officials at all levels of the organisation reflects a collective determination to strengthen service delivery and enhance institutional performance. Notable progress has been achieved in key performance areas during this period.

These gains are indicative of the Department's focused efforts to implement targeted interventions, strengthen oversight, and improve operational efficiency. While this progress is commendable, sustained effort is necessary to consolidate these achievements, address systemic challenges, and ensure a lasting impact.

The Department remains committed to improving service delivery across all schools in the province through effective resource allocation, strengthened monitoring and evaluation, and the consistent implementation of policies and programmes. These efforts are aimed at enhancing learner performance and ensuring the achievement of high-quality educational outcomes.

Going forward, the Department will continue to prioritise accountability, reinforce governance, and cultivate a performance-driven culture that supports continuous improvement. Through these measures, I aim to fulfil our constitutional mandate in a manner that is responsive, efficient, and aligned with the needs and expectations of the communities I serve.

I thank you.

***“Building a North West Province
That Works for All”***



HUMAN RIGHTS DAY PROVINCIAL GALA

By Refiloe Motswenyane

The Department of Education celebrates Human Rights' Day Provincial Gala Event under the theme "A legacy of courage: Protecting Rights, Preserving Humanity". The gala was celebrated at Laerskool Unie, Klersdorp, Dr Kenneth Kaunda District on the 25 March 2025.

The purpose of Human Rights Day is not just to commemorate and honour those who put their lives in the frontlines in Sharpeville on the 21st of March 1960. We remember the 69 people who were brutally murdered and the 180 people who were injured, and in general, we remember the individuals who participated in the struggle.

But beyond that, it is a day where we gather and get to reflect on our past with the intention of moving forward. That reflection should involve charting a way forward on the kind of society we aspire to have - an inclusive society, where everyone is judged based on their actions not skin colour.

The competition focused on special school and mainstream schools using both Setswana and English language. This competition was an edutainment for learners to improve artwork and languages especially the mother-tongue Setswana.

"As we gather here today to commemorate Human Rights Day, we are reminded that this is not a merely a ceremonial event but very powerful platform one that call us to reflect, to recommit and to actively shape a future rooted in dignity, equality and justice for all. This Human Right provincial gala event is a celebration of progress but also a moment of purpose and opportunity to strengthen our collective vision and renewed our shared responsibility to improve the life of our learners in our schools and our employees and employees in their workplaces." Said MEC Motsumi in her speech.



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing the audience in attendance



Ms Pink Senatle awarding learners at the event.



Parents and Principals presenting awards.



MEC Viola Motsumi and Stakeholders presenting awards.



Learners performing at the event.



Human Rights Day awards.

MEC further alluded that as the Northwest Department of Education through the Inclusive Education Directorate we are going to ensure that every child who is currently out of school is identify and supported to be at school. Our goal is to make sure that all children have access to education and can fully benefit from opportunity and service provided by our government. Our objective is to make sure that we contribute positively in making sure that we protect the rights of our learners.

The competition focused on special schools and main-stream schools using both Setswana and the English language.

This competition is an edutainment for learners to improve artwork and languages especially the mother-tongue Setswana.

The award ceremony for all the positions one is as follows:

Foundation Phase -
Drawing -African Union Flag
Bantseng Tshwanel (Dr KK)

Intermediate Phase Setswana Poem
Mangena Amogelang(Bojanala)

Intermediate English Poem
Milanke Goodwin (Dr KK)

Senior Phase -Oral Presentation -Setswana
Binare Mmathapelo(Dr KK)

Senior Phase -Oral Presentation - English
Mokhaneli Kutlo(Dr KK)

FET Phase -Essay Setswana
Marumo Remoratile (NMM)

FET Phase - Essay English
Fatshe Keabetswe (Bojanala)

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Moderate Intellectual Disability (MID) Level 1
Modisane Kutlwano from Temogo Special School

Severe Intellectual Disability (SID) level 1
Motswaledi Olebogeng (MM Sebitloane Special School)

SID level 2
Kondi Manqoba - Obed More Special School

SID level 3
Ngobeni Katlego -Obed More Special School

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MEC Motsumi Held an Accountability Meeting with the Departmental Senior Management

By Elias Malindi

The North West Department of Education, Viola Motsumi convened an accountability meeting with Departmental Senior Managers of the Department at Royal Marang on Friday, 10 April 2026.

The purpose of the session was to closely monitor and evaluate the performance of each Directorate within the department. Such meetings are aimed at strengthening oversight, improving service delivery and ensuring that strategic education goals in the province are being effectively implemented.

The managers presented their 2025/2026 Fourth Quarter achievements: Expenditure Report as of 31 March 2026, Post Audit Action Plan (PAAP) Report as at 31 March 2026, Infrastructure Progress Report, Progress Report on Filling of Posts, Status of Security in Schools and Presentation of the Status of Schooling in the Province, since the Reopening of the Schools for Term 2 (08 April 2026).

The MEC for Education, Viola Motsumi firmly questioned Senior Managers about their inability to meet performance targets during the accountability meeting.

“Why are we not able to reach our targets? For the Department to perform, I must convene monthly accountability meetings. There must be consequence management for those Directorates which fail to reach their annual targets, and this is totally unacceptable.

“Work cannot be done only when I have requested it, officials should be able to do their work without being told to do so. Directorates should not wait until the end of the quarter to compile their reports, reports should be compiled monthly”, said MEC Motsumi.

MEC Motsumi further stressed the importance of financial accountability, by stating that all those who owe the Department must pay back the money. She emphasized that Senior Managers should lead by example in this regard, reinforcing a culture of integrity, responsibility and consequence management within the department.



MEC Motsumi outlining the purpose of the meeting.



Ms Lesetedi and Dr Motsusi taking notes of key issues.



Mr Lengane Bogatsu explaining that regular monitoring is important.



Part of Senior Management who attended the session.



Ms Mpho Kereeditse and Mr Mashao listening attentively during the meeting.

North West Department of Education Engages in a Strategic Planning Session to Develop new Plans for the Future

By Godfrey Seatle

A two days Strategic Planning Lekgotla for the North West Department of Education took place at Seasons Wedding Centre in Mahikeng, from the 09th-10th of March 2026. This Lekgotla was attended by the Executive and Senior Management of the Department, to tighten the operational and administrative strategies that drives the education system forward. The focal point of the Lekgotla was to analyse, adjust and give more service delivery meaning to the annual performance plan, annual report and action plan towards 2030 with more emphasis on goals and objectives that will be reached through achievable targets.



Superintendent General, Mr. Lengane Bogatsu addressing Departmental Officials.



Mr. Gift Ramadie making inputs.



Mr. Harry Mashao articulating on Strategic issues.

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The main objectives of the Strategic Planning Lekgotla were to review the Branch Lekgotla resolutions, rationalise Branch indicators, align targets to budget, sign off Branch APP and review TIDs, SOPS and AOP. The intention is to address all the challenges and identifying key deliverables that were clear, realistic, measureable, attainable, time bound and open for easy monitoring and implementation. The other more significant point is that, the Departmental priorities should encapsulate the statements of both the MEC and HOD stated in the 2026/ 2027 Annual Performance Plan of the North West Department of Education.

The Lekgotla was redirecting management of the Department to realise and implement the Vision statement of the Department in line with the set priorities of government and the current service delivery demand throughout the sector. Furthermore, the Lekgotla was joined by NECT to present on the important expectations and key identified challenges that the Department should prioritise and address.

The Superintendent General for the North West Department of Education, Mr. Lengane Bogatsu gave more administrative direction to the deliberations of the Lekgotla and its realistic and implementable resolutions and expressed that the session was a true reflection of SMART planning and professional work for Team Education.

Some of the lekgotla resolutions were:

- Number of public ordinary schools that offer Grade R should be increased
 - Districts must ensure that percentage of females accessing Technical Subjects in public schools is increased
 - Number of primary schools using EGRA to drive teaching of reading should be monitored for implementation process
 - Centralisation of training to PEDS should be discussed and finalised
- procurement should always be aligned to the available budget
- Branches Operational Plans are developed



Dr Peter Paul Kgatitsoe giving guidance on Strategy Commissions.



Departmental Officials during Lekgotla.



Ms Conny Moroeng engaging with presentations.



Ms Masego Sena presenting during Lekgotla.

Superintendent General's 10 Kilometre Walk



Superintendent General, Mr. Lengane Bogatsu and Dr Phorabatho during the 10 km walk.



Departmental Officials during the 10 km walk.



Departmental Officials during the 10 km walk.



Departmental Officials during the 10 km walk.



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NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CHARTS PATH TO IMPROVE LEARNER PERFORMANCE

By Mphata Molokwane and Refiloe Motswenyanez

The North West Department of Education has convened a three-day 2026 Curriculum Delivery Enhancement Strategic Session at Rosewood Country Lodge in Rustenburg. The event took place from 28 to 30 January 2026, bringing together senior officials and education stakeholders to confront the challenges facing curriculum delivery in the province. The strategic session focused on a detailed analysis of the 2025 Grade 11 results and the urgent interventions required to support learners who have now progressed to Grade 12 in 2026. The department aimed to ensure that no learner is left behind as the province works towards improving its matric outcomes.

MEC for Education Viola Motsumi, stressed that the time for complacency has passed and that Local Education Offices must take full responsibility for the performance of schools under their administration. "We cannot accept poor performance as the norm. There must be a decisive turnaround strategy in Local Education Offices that did not perform well in the previous academic year. The future of our learners depends on the commitment and accountability of every official within the system," said Motsumi. The MEC further emphasised that monitoring learner support programmes must be strengthened and that Local Education Offices must invest adequate resources to ensure effective administration and improved academic outcomes.



MEC Viola Motsumi addressing the audience.

She continued her call on District Directors, Circuit Managers, and School Leaderships to prioritise learner support, intensify curriculum monitoring, and ensure that the necessary interventions are implemented throughout the year. "The responsibility to improve results rests with all of us. Our learners deserve a system that works, and we must collectively ensure that 2026 becomes a year of improved performance and renewed commitment to quality education in the North West," she concluded.

The session was expected to produce clear interventions and practical strategies that will guide districts and schools in strengthening curriculum delivery and improving learner performance across the province.



Superintendent General, Mr. Lengane Bogatsu making valuable input.



Senior management of the Department during Curriculum Delivery Enhancement Strategic Session.

Outreach Programme Empowering Learners Through Career Expo

By Mphata Molokwane

The North West Department of Education conducted a meaningful outreach programme at the North West School for the Blind in Christiana, aimed at empowering learners through career exposure and essential health education. Learners benefited from career guidance sessions facilitated by KHETHA, where they were exposed to various study and training opportunities to help them make informed decisions about their future pathways.

Officials from the Department of Health delivered important health guidance, focusing on overall wellbeing, personal responsibility and life skills. Special attention was given to supporting the girl child, with discussions centred on self-development, protecting their health, and understanding the importance of abstaining from sexual activities to safeguard their future.

In addition, learners living with albinism received sun-screen products to protect their skin from harmful ultraviolet radiation exposure. The gesture is a way to show the importance of preventative healthcare and ensuring that their specific health needs are addressed.



Mr Motlotlegi expressing his view.



KHETHA Official addressing learners.



Health Representative providing health guidance to learners.



Learners listening attentively during Career Expo.

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North West Achieves 88.49% Pass Rate In 2025 NSC Results

By Mphata Molokwane



(L-R): MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi, DR RSM District Director, Ms. Mojakhumo Dithejane, North West Top Achiever Temogo Matong and Superintendent-General, Mr Lengane Bogatsu.

North West Department of Education proudly announced a remarkable overall pass rate of 88.49% in the 2025 National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations, highlighting the ongoing progress and resilience of the province's educational system. To celebrate this achievement, the department hosted a special event at Rutanang Primary School in Rustenburg, honoring learners who excelled in their 2025 matric results.

The celebration was attended by the esteemed Premier Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi, Traditional Leaders from the province, and a host of dignitaries.

The Department took great pride in recognizing the top-performing candidate in the North West for the Class of 2025, who achieved an impressive 1,727 calculated marks across the best six subjects (excluding Life Orientation). This exceptional learner hails from the Dr. Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District, and is a learner at Setswakgosing Secondary

School, a Quintile 2 institution. This accomplishment underscores the notion that excellence is driven not by the school's background but by the learner's dedication and commitment, as he ranked among the top 40 candidates nationwide when the Minister announced the results.

In terms of gender performance, male learners recorded a pass rate of 89.11%, while female learners achieved a commendable 88.00%. Notably, female learners surpassed their male counterparts in Bachelor's degree admissions, reinforcing their strong academic standing. Additionally, learners attending no-fee schools improved their pass rate to 87.01%, while those in fee-paying schools achieved an impressive 89.53%. This data illustrates that quality education is attainable regardless of socio-economic circumstances.



North West Province 2025 Top Matric Achievers.

The Class of 2025 also achieved 8,050 distinctions, excluding Life Orientation, marking an increase from 7,901 in 2024. This trend signifies a rising standard of excellence among learners throughout the province. MEC Viola Motsumi emphasized that to bolster school performance, the Department has implemented targeted interventions engaging with both principals and learners.

There has been a significant reduction in the number of underperforming schools, decreasing from 106 in 2022 to 28 in 2024. Although this figure saw a slight rise to 37 schools

in 2025, this was primarily due to challenges related to learner retention across different phases. The Department remains steadfast in its commitment to ensuring that between 90% and 100% of schools meet established performance standards going forward.

Mr. Lengane Bogatsu, Superintendent General, encouraged learners who did not pass matric to consider the Second Chance Matric Programme. In 2025, 4,708 candidates fell short of the NSC requirements and are eligible to enroll in and write the supplementary examinations scheduled for June 2026.

The Department extends its heartfelt condolences to families who lost learners during the past year. MEC Motsumi further acknowledged the unfortunate circumstance that some learners who completed their final examinations were unable to receive their results on the day they were released.

**North West Province
Works for All"**

Porefense Ya Bokone Bophirima E Dirile Hisetori Mo Dipholong Tsa Serutwa Sa Setswana Puogae

Barulaganyi: Mogokaganyi wa Dipuo tsa Seaforika: Mme Lekome BP

Mogakolodi wa Setswana mo Kantorothutong ya Selegae ya Rustenburg: Rre Mooa PC

Barutabana ba Setswana ba Porofense ya Bokonebophirima ba dirile go tla ka diatla. Bagakolodi ba Puo ya Setswana le barutabana, ba re dirile motlotlo.

Tlerebenyang lo sa ikgalale! A mogolokwane oo o thube moropa wa tsebe. Dipholo tsa Setswana tsa ngwagathuto wa 2025 di dirile hisetori e e leng tshimologo ya bontle jwa dipholo tsa Setswana tsa makgaolagang go ya go ile. Ba itomile sesino barati le badibedi ba serutwa se gore go ya tlase ke ga nong e seng bona. Ba neetse barutwana tshwanelo ya thuto go sa belatsetse, barutwana ba se nne molema ba dira diaba mo tlathobong e kete ba tshoseditswe ke mongwe gore fa ba ka retelelwa gaabobona ke diheleng.

Seabe sa bona se thusitse le go tlhotlheletsa maduo a peopele a barutwana a a tlhokwang ke ditheo tse dikgolwane tsa thuto mo thebolong ya manno mo bontsing jwa maphata a go ithuta. Bontle jwa dipholo tsa Serutwa bo supa kwa ntle ga ketsaetsego gore tirisano mmogo, boineelo, lerato ke dibetsa tsa fa o batla katlego. Re ipela ka wena Setswana. Lona le barutwana re lo phophotha masikaraphoti mme ka boitumelo ra re nko ya kgomo!

Porofense ya Bokonebophirima e bone maemo a ntlha mo nageng ka diporesente tsa phalolo di le 99,8, le diporesente tsa palogare di le 67,67. Barutwana ba ba boneng maemo a dinaledi ba 2434. Dikolo ka kakaretso di dirile sentle thata ka bontsi jwa tsona bone diporesente tsa palogare e e kwa godimo ga 60. Ke di le supa fela tse di dirileng kwa tlase ga palogare e. A BONTLE JO BO KALO!!! Barutabana ba ba ithomileng kwa pele ke ba ba latelang:

GO TSWA MO DIKOLONG DI LE 384 MO POROFENSENG MAEMO A NTLHA A YA GO:



Rre Tshidisho Milton Matsietsa go tswa kwa sekolong sa Reitshokile kwa Kantorothutong ya Selegae ya Kagisano Molopo, mo sedikeng sa DR Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti. Ena o bone diporesente di le 100 tsa phalolo,

diporesente tsa palogare di 79, se, se bontsha boleng jwa maduo a barutwana ba gagwe. Barutwana ba sekolo se ba ba boneng maemo a dinaledi ba 12. ODIRILE RRA!!!

MAEMO A BOBEDI A YA GO:



Tlhogo ya Lefapha la Dipuo Mme Memory Kedibone Rabanye le morutabana Kerotse Johannah Mokaila. Bobedi ke barutana ba Setswana Puo ya Gae kwa sekolong se segolo sa Bonetetshi sa Letsatsing kwa Mmabatho, mo Kantorothutong ya Selegae ya Mahikeng. Bona ba bone diporesente tsa phalolo di le 100, diporesente tsa palogare ke 77 le barutwana ba le 59 ba ba boneng dinaledi.

MAEMO A BORARO GO TSWA MO DIKOLONG DI LE 384 MO POROFENSENG

Maemo a boraro mo porofenseng a bonwe ke dikolo di le pedi, e leng Ntlatsang le Matthew Mangope go tswa mo Kantorothutong ya Selegae ya Ramotshere Moiloa mo sedikeng sa Ngaka Modiri Molema. Dikolo tse ka bobedi, di bone diporesente di le 100 tsa phalolo le diporesente tsa Palogare di le 76,33.



Murutabana Tebogo Tigele go tswa kwa sekong se segolo sa Ntlatsang Palo ya barutwana ba ba iponetseng dinaledi ke 9.



Murutabana Kelenetse Dina Taele go tswa kwa sekolong se segolo sa Matthew Mangope, Sekolo se iponetse dinaledi di le 11.

MAEMO A BOTLHANO A YA GO:



Tlhogo ya Lefapha la Dipuo Mme Fredah Walaga le morutabana Mme Ntombizodwa Mary Morephe. Bobedi ke barutana ba Setswana ba Puo ya Gae kwa sekolong se segolo sa Tsogo mo Mmakau, mo Kantorothutong ya Selegae ya Madibeng. Ba iponetse diporesente tsa phalolo di le 100, diporesente tsa palogare ke 75,33 le barutwana ba le 43 ba ba boneng dinaledi.



Morutabana Selina Kedibone Lekaba go tswa kwa sekolong sa Mokgojoa, mo Karolothitong ya Selegae ya Ramotshere Moiloa, mo sedikeng sa Ngaka Modiri Molema. Barutwana ba ba boneng dinaledi ke ba le 7.

MAEMO A BOSUPA

Barutabana ba ba latelang ba tlhakanetse maemo a bosupa, mme ba iponetse diporesente tsa phalolo di le 100 le diporesente tsa palogare ya 75. Barutabana ba, ba tswa kwa dikolong tse di latelang:



Morutabana Letlhogonolo Moribe, go tswa kwa sekolong se segolo sa Kopanelo mo Kantorothutong ya Selegae ya Ditsobotla, mo sedikeng sa Ngaka Modiri Molema, o iponetse dinaledi di le 3.



Morutabana Veronica Mantele Setlhauno wa sekolo se segolo sa Itsholetseng, go tswa mo Kantorothutong ya Selegae ya Kagisano Molopo mo sedikeng sa DR Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti. O na le barutwana ba le bathano ba ba iponetseng maemo a dinaledi.



Morutabana Kelebogile Phirichwane, was sekolo sa Seoleseng mo Kantorothutong ya Selegae ya Greater Taung, mo sedikeng sa DR Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti o iponetse maemo a bosupa ka diporesente tsa phalolo di le 100 le tsa palogare di le 75. Barutwana ba ba iponetseng maemo a dinaledi ba 7.



Morutabana Veronica Mantele Setlhauno wa sekolo se segolo sa Itsholetseng, go tswa mo Kantorothutong ya Selegae ya Kagisano Molopo mo sedikeng sa DR Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti. O na le barutwana ba le bathano ba ba iponetseng maemo a dinaledi.

Ka kakaretso, jaaka Mogokaganyi wa Dipuo tsa Seaforika, ke rata go leboga dikolo tsotlhe ka di dirile sentle thata mo ngogola. Fela itseng gore dipholo tse ga se tsa barutabana ba mophato wa marematlou fela, le barutabana ba ba kwa tlase ba nnile le karolo mo go tsona. KOPANO KE MAATLA!!!

North West Department of Education in collaboration with NECT hosts a Provincial Dialogue in Literacy and Numeracy

By Godfrey Seattle

In its endeavour to strengthening the quality of foundation learning and enhancing learner performance throughout the Province, the North West Department of Education together with National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT), held a Provincial Educational Dialogue at Lichtenburg Hoerskool in Lichtenburg, Ngaka Modiri Molema District.

The dialogue had solicited participation from stakeholders in education, Senior Management of the Department, Teacher Unions, Subject Advisors, South African Principals Association (SAPA), Fedsas, Cambridge University Press, PanSALB, North West University and more relevant sections of the Department that includes Learner Social Support Services and Curriculum Management Services. It is aimed at providing feedback to the Department in learning gaps recovery in Grade 4, 6 and 9, and further explore strategies on improving literacy and numeracy outcomes at the right level in the education system throughout the country. NECT has conducted a rapid assessment in learners' acquisition of basic skills in relation to written works and utilisation of workbooks

from Department of Basic Education (DBE).

National Education Collaboration Trust further gave feedback on the research that they conducted in relation to overall performance on written works and utilisation of workbooks from other provinces like Limpopo and currently, the Northern Cape, that is still underway. Some of the findings that were shared with the audience were:

- Inconsistencies of using workbooks from DBE, Time on task and assessment data which indicates how learners' time is translated into learner progress, Quantitative Learner Data and continuous support to learning and teaching across the education system.

The dialogue broadly focused more on sharing the experience, expertise and shaping the future of learners from foundation phases through robust engagement with NECT, Social partners like Unions, Universities, and other relevant stakeholders that continuously support education on daily basis.

The Superintendent General for the North West Department of Education, Mr Lengane Boqatsu

committed during the Dialogue that, the Department will meet with NECT and the NWU to find administrative ways of working together as partners to develop a strategy that will address the identified gaps on literacy and numeracy in the province. The strategy will further assist the North West Department of Education to reach its anticipated percentage pass target of 95% for 2026 academic cycle.



Ms Lucy Tong deliberating on Literacy and Numeracy challenges.



Part of the audience in dialogue session.



Briefing Session between the North West Department of Education and NECT.



North West Department of Education hosts Provincial Schools Arts and Culture Championships

By Refiloe Motswenyane



Learners demonstrating their talent.

The Provincial Schools' Arts and Culture in partnership with National and Provincial Departments of Arts and Culture (DSAC and ACSR), and Mmabana Foundation Mafikeng hosted a prestigious two days Provincial Schools' Arts and Culture Competition for primary and secondary schools with a theme Gender Based Violence. The event was held at Mmabana Foundation Mafikeng Ngaka Modiri Molema District, on the 6th and 7th February 2026.

The main purpose of the event was to afford learners an opportunity to celebrate, explore and showcase their talents through culture, drama, dance, music, visual arts embedded in the creative arts curriculum. The learners that participated in the competition were champions from all four districts of the province. The competition focused in both mainstream and special schools.



Learners showcasing their talent through drama.



Learners performing during the event.

The Manager for Mmabana Foundation Mafikeng, Kesolofetse Mbali welcomed all the guests from National Department of Sports, Arts and Culture, Provincial Department of Education and ACSR and Department of Education. Furthermore, she advised learners to engage more on sports activities.

In rendering a message of support, the Provincial coordinator for School Enrichment, Raymond Mofolo encouraged schools to participate in this programme of Provincial School Arts and Culture Competition, as it affords learners an opportunity to showcase their talents. It is a valuable platform to express their vision through the arts. We should allow them to gain experience and exploit other avenues to unlock their potential.

“Building a North West Province That Works for All”



Learners preparing themselves before taking stage on traditional performance.

The results for Provincial Primary Schools' Arts and Culture 2026 Competition for both mainstream and special school were as follows:

- **POETRY** – Botsalano Primary School from Dr RSM obtained position 1, Ruskraal Primary School from Bojanala obtained position 2 and Mathateng Primary School from NMM obtained position 3.
- **PANTSULA DANCE**- Iteko and Odi Primary School from Bojanala obtained position 1, Ikalafeng Primary School from Dr KK and Lokgabeng Primary School from Dr RSM both obtained position 2 and CSFB Special School and Tigane Primary School from Dr KK obtained position 3.
- **DRAMA**- Matlhare-Moholo Primary School from Dr RSM obtained position 1, Sunrise View Primary School from Bojanala obtained position 2, Tigane Primary School from Dr KK obtained position 3.
- **GUMBOOT DANCE**- Tshwaraganelo Primary School and M M Sebitloane Special School from Dr RSM obtained position 1, Ikalafeng and Mphoetsile Primary School from NMM both obtained position 2 and Lillian Lehetla Primary School from NMM obtained position 3.
- **CLAP N TAP** - Reoleboge Primary from Bojanala and Malebogo Primary School from NMM obtained position 1, Christiana School for the Blind, a special school from Dr RSM and Atlarelang Primary School from Dr KK both obtained position 2 and D P Moloto Primary School from NMM and Botsalano Primary School obtained position 3.
- **VISUAL ART** - Reoleboge Primary School from Bojanala and Arefenyeng Primary School from Dr KK obtained position 1, DP Moloto and Yusuf Dadoo Primary School from Dr NMM both obtained position 2 and Temoso Primary School from Dr RSM and Marapo-A Thutlwa Primary School obtained position 3.
- **INDIGENOUS MUSIC & DANCE** - M M Sebitlwane Special School from Dr RSM and Sunrise View Primary School from Bojanala obtained position 1, Ikalafeng Primary School from Dr KK and Lokgabeng Primary School from Dr NMM both obtained position 2 and Ikalafeng Primary School from Dr KK and Phogole Primary School from Dr KK obtained position 3.

The results for Provincial Secondary Schools' Arts and Culture 2026 Competition for both mainstream and special school were as follows:

- **Poetry-BA** Seobi Secondary School from Dr KK obtained position 1 with a whopping 81% marks

In the Pantsula Dance category for mainstream, Botlhabelo Secondary School from Bojanala District obtained position 1 with 85% while in the same category in Special Schools, Obed More Special School from Bojanala scored 70% and obtained the first position.

- **Drama** - Matlhaleng Secondary School from Dr kk recorded 87% marks and obtained position 1

In the category of Gumboot Dance, Ikalafeng Special School from Dr KK obtained the first position with 85% and NTShidi Secondary School from Ngaka Modiri Molema scored 89.50% in the mainstream and occupied position 1

- **Clap and Tap** - Christiana School for the Blind from Dr RSM recorded 75% and occupied the first position while in the same category, mainstream; Boitshoko Secondary School from Dr KK obtained position 1 with 86 %

- **Visual Art** - Obed More Special School from Bojanala scored a whopping 107% and obtained position 1, while in the same category; mainstream, Reabetswe Secondary School from Dr RSM OBTAINED POSITION 1 WITH 116%.

- **In the Setswana Traditional Dance category;** mainstream; Ipelegeng Secondary School from Dr RSM scored 80% and obtained the first position meanwhile, in Special Schools category, Christiana from Dr RSM obtained position 1 with 66.33%.



Learners performing in different categories during the Provincial Schools Arts and Culture Championships held at Mmabana Mahikeng.



“Building a North West Province That Works for All”

Early Childhood Development Empowers EPWP Workers with Lifelong Skills



Mr Jonny Moloto (Public Works) and Ms Kidi Makena (Education) presenting awards to trainees.



Part of the EPWP workers in attendance.



Education and Public Works Departmental Officials posing for group photos with EPWP workers.

By Godfrey Seattle

A total number of 70 Classroom and General assistants who were recruited by the North West Department of Education through the EPWP Integrated Grant funded by the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, got a valuable opportunity to be trained on Nails Technician skills. The training that was organised by the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Component of the Department took place at Kgaswane Country Lodge from the 09-13 March 2026, and targeted EPWP workers from all four Districts of the Province. The purpose of the initiative is to:

- empower the identified youth with a first class skill that will put something on their table for their families beyond their 12 months-long contracts with the Department, that is come to an end on the 31st of March 2026 and
- alleviate youth unemployment and, by extension, reduce poverty.

In addition to that, the grant supports skills development initiatives designed to empower EPWP participants to establish their own Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs), thereby continuing job creation and sustainable livelihoods. The workshop generated great excitement and enthusiasm, with participants eager to learn advanced techniques such as gel application with tips, acrylic decoration and various nail-shaping styles including Coffin, Almond, Stiletto and Square. The workshop included professional training in manicure and pedicure techniques and upon completion, all 70 participants receive certificates.

The EPWP continues to serve as a lifeline, restoring dignity and hope among our youth who might otherwise face unemployment and limited resources for earning a livelihood, an uncertain future. The participants were not only awarded with certificates but were provided with a nail kit with a small oven that will give them more courage to kick-start their small businesses in their area and advance to a more higher and sustainable business opportunities.

Conductors Get Equipped for Success

By Tshegofatso Molopyane & Karabo Dichaba

Ngaka Modiri Molema District Conductors' Workshop kicked off on 17th March 2026 at Kgosi Kebalepile Secondary School, with primary, farm, and special schools taking center stage on the first day. The 2-day workshop which ran until 18th March, focused on Secondary Schools on the second day.

Renowned pianists Mr John Manamela and Mr Ashan Pieris, and experienced adjudicators Mr Tshepo Matlala, Mr Lucky Songo, and Mr Phenyio Matlokwe shared their expertise with conductors, empowering them with the skills needed to lead successful choirs.

District DCES School Enrichment, Mr Thabo Mmolai, urged conductors to work smart and collaborate as a team to achieve their goals. The workshop addressed challenges, expectations, and provided support for first-time conductors.

The expectation from the SES Arts and Culture, Music, Race and Values in Education Ms Pinkie Senatle; is that the workshop will equip conductors with the knowledge, skills, and techniques necessary to lead well-trained choirs to success. "School enrichment programs like these play

a vital role in shaping the young ones, fostering creativity, teamwork, and confidence. By investing in these initiatives, we invest in the holistic development of our future leaders, artists, and innovators; ultimately contributing to a brighter future for our communities."



Conductors who received knowledge, skills and necessary techniques during the workshop.

School Safety Awareness Campaign

By Tshegofatso Molopyane & Karabo Dichaba



Stakeholders presenting during School Safety Awareness Campaign.

Ngaka Modiri Molema District Learner Support Services was led by Ms L. Dithipe and Mr M. Dire in conducting a successful campaign in Coligny Special School on the 19th March 2026. The purpose of the campaign was to capacitate learners about the dangers of substance abuse, gender based violence, bullying, cyberbullying, gangsterism and mental health issues.

The Acting Circuit Manager Ms B.G Motabogi, gave a warm message of support and encouraged learners to love and respect one another, "Be Buddies Not Bullies"; she said. She also appreciated the educators and staff for their love and patience with the special learners and encouraged them to continue nurturing their unique potential.

Different Stakeholders made presentations and motivated learners to do better in life. In attendance it was Department of Health, Department of Social Development, Correctional Services, Ambassador for Change and New Beginnings NGO.

The Department is hopeful that the campaign will assist in curbing the behavioural challenges previously experienced in the school. Consequence management will therefore be applied for those who do not respect the code of conduct of the school.

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Ngaka Modiri Molema Regional Sapa Conference 2026

By Tshegofatso Molopyane & Karabo Dichaba

The South African Principals Association (SAPA) Conference 2026 was successfully hosted, bringing together school principals and education leaders committed to strengthening school leadership and governance in Ngaka Modiri Molema District on Friday 13th March 2026 at Black Rock Resort in Madibogo Village.

The programme featured insightful presentations from distinguished speakers. V. Mdledle addressed principals on approaches to fundraising, sharing practical strategies that schools can use to mobilize resources and sustain development initiatives. Dr Ramadie delivered a valuable session on educator wellness, highlighting the importance of maintaining mental wellbeing and professional balance in demanding leadership roles.

Governance in schools was unpacked by Mr. Leburu from the National Association of School Governing Bodies (NASGB), who elaborated on the pillars of governance and the application of Norms and Standards, Section 145 (a), (b), and (c) in strengthening accountability and effective school management.



SAPA Officials receiving awards.



District Director Ms Lesetedi presenting awards

The Acting District Director delivered a keynote address under the theme “Reimagining Future School Leadership.” She urged principals to strive for excellence in line with the district mantra, “Excellence, Our Heartbeat.” Principals were further encouraged to collaborate and strengthen performance across all districts focus areas, particularly in governance and management.

The President of SAPA addressed members and encouraged principals to recruit and grow the association; so that school leaders can collectively mitigate challenges facing the sector. He reaffirmed that SAPA is a professional association, not politically aligned and not a union, but a platform for collaboration, professional growth, and leadership support.

The conference also witnessed the successful by-election of the vacant

Deputy Chairperson position, where Mr Seeco from Upper Setlagole Secondary School was elected. Congratulations to Mr Seeco on this leadership responsibility.

In addition, the NTA 2025 candidates were acknowledged and celebrated for their excellence and dedication to educational leadership, reflecting the high standards of professionalism among principals in our district.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to our valued sponsors who made the conference possible: Nashua, South Bison, Edu Corporate, OCET Printing, Boithabiso Printing, and Macmillan Publishers, together with other growing local businesses supporting education.

Together we continue reimagining and strengthening school leadership for the future.

St Mary's Secondary School Multipurpose Sports Ground Handover

By Tshegofatso Molopyane & Karabo Dichaba

St Mary's Secondary School, under the Mahikeng Local Education Office in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District, marked a memorable and historic occasion on 04 February 2026 with the official handover of a multipurpose sports ground by MultiChoice.

The event was graced by the presence of the Acting District Director, Ms E.M. Lesetedi, who expressed her sincere appreciation for the commitment and dedication demonstrated by MultiChoice in ensuring that a school within the Mahikeng community is equipped with a world-class multipurpose sports facility. She emphasised that the facility will play a critical role in nurturing sporting talent and shaping the next generation of sports stars, not only for St Mary's Secondary School but also for neighbouring institutions.



Official opening and handing over of the multipurpose sports facility

Also in attendance was the Mayor of Mahikeng Local Municipality, Councillor Tshepiso Mphehlo, who warmly welcomed the initiative and commended MultiChoice for recognising and investing in the potential of learners at St Mary's Secondary School.



St Mary's RCL President

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St Mary's alumni, Dr K. Modimoeng, Executive Vice President: Public Affairs at MultiChoice, encouraged learners, educators and community members to protect and take pride in the facility. He described the sports ground as a valuable investment capable of opening pathways to future careers and lifelong opportunities.



St Mary's teachers and learners.



Former Kaizer Chiefs and Mamelodi Sundowns player, as well as a North West sporting icon, Mr Fabian McCarthy, further inspired learners by applauding the initiative and pledging his support in mentoring and guiding young athletes towards achieving their full potential.

During this prestigious event, soccer and netball kits were also donated to Tshidi Barolong, Batswana and Mmabatho High Schools, reinforcing the spirit of inclusivity, collaboration and shared development within the district.

The Ngaka Modiri Molema District continues to be strengthened through strategic partnerships with stakeholders such as MultiChoice, whose commitment extends beyond academic excellence to the promotion of extracurricular development. Such collaborations remain instrumental in building strong foundations that enable schools and communities to cultivate future stars and foster a brighter, more holistic future for learners.

North West Department of Education celebrates World Read Aloud Day

By Godfrey Seatle

A total number of 24 schools from Makgobistad circuit, consisting of 16 Primary and 7 High schools gathered at Mabule Community Hall on 13 February 2026, to celebrate the world Read Aloud Day that has been declared an annual event throughout the world.

The World Read Aloud Day is celebrated on the 04th of February every year and the National Department of Education made a clarion call for government to celebrate the event for the entire month of February. This is highlighted by Ms B Tumane, from School Library and Multimedia Services of the Department.

The department in collaboration with key stakeholders celebrates the activity every year, from one District to the other to instill the love to read and broaden the scope of literacy in the province.

The main focus of the world Read Aloud Day is to highlight that reading aloud improves listening skills, boost comprehension, builds vocabulary and foster lifelong love for reading across the communities. It helps learners to read for meaning and enhance their literacy level.



Ms B. Tumane addressing learners during the World Read Aloud Day.



Learners who received awards during the ceremony.

In making sure that education is a societal matter, key stakeholders in education gave messages of support to strengthen partnerships and foster the spirit of working together and delivering quality education to a South African child in the ever-changing world.

Key stakeholders present were, Nalibali, Maskew Miller, Oxford University Press, Macmillan Publishers, Room to Read, Community Library Blue Ribbon and the Department of Agriculture.

The keynote speaker, Ms Molebogeng Maake, from North West University School of Languages, outlined the importance of language in schools and in the communities. She mentioned that language shapes life and connect one with their roots. In conclusion, she emphasised that “speaking your own language gives you protection and confidence, and to lean in your language is to learn your culture - love your language.”

The overall performance of schools for Departmental World Read Aloud Day celebration were:

1. Gaetsalwe Secondary School
2. Mabule Primary School
3. Makgobi Primary School



Learners were given a marathon of activities to perform and compete on during the celebration and schools that obtained position ones were:

- Grade 4, Read Aloud - Gaetsalwe PS
- Grade 5, Poetry - Gaetsalwe PS
- Grade 6, Radio Program - Mabule PS
- Grade 7, Poster - Makgobi PS
- Grade 8, Short Story - Read Aloud - Ntshidi Secondary
- Grade 9, Poster - Mmoleledi Secondary
- Grade 10, Speech - Ntshidi Secondary School

Teachers were also encouraged to ensure that they expose learners to all important activities forming part of February Month which amongst others, includes, World Radio Day celebration, International Mother Language Day, Valentine’s day and other activities that form part of the February month celebrations.

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NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
**FUNERAL DETAILS OF THE THREE LEARNERS OF
VRYBURG HIGH SCHOOL**



Remofiloe Mtshengu
4 Nov 2011 - 08 April 2026



Kitso Mathope
13 May 2010 - 08 April 2026

**JOINT FUNERAL SERVICE
DETAILS FOR THE LATE
REMOFILOE MTSHENGU &
KITSO MATHOPE**

**TIME: 07:00 AM
DATE: SATURDAY, 18 APRIL 2026
VENUE: TSWAING COMMUNITY HALL,
DELAREYVILLE**

**FUNERAL DETAILS
FOR THE LATE
ENICA NOMBELA**

**TIME: 07:00 AM
DATE: SATURDAY, 18 APRIL 2026
VENUE: PLOT 73, SOUTPAN,
DELAREYVILLE**



Enica Nombela
3 Dec 2008 - 11 April 2026

May Their Souls Rest in Peace



education

Department:
Education
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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THAT WORKS FOR ALL"**



POSTER



MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi
North West Department of Education

New
Education Email Domain





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LEARNER REGISTRATION 2027

The North West Department of Education is encouraging Parents and Guardians to register learners in any public school

Learner Registration and admission began on **08 April 2026** and will end on **30 September 2026**.

Documents required for Learner Registration

- Certified copy of birth Certificate
- Immunisation Card
- Most recent school academic report card
- Study permit or work permit for non-SA citizens
- Temporary or permanent residence or proof of application for such.

Contact:

- Ms B.G Moeng: 0609806466
(Provincial Coordinator)

Hurry-Up!

Learner admission will be conducted on a first-come, first served basis.



MEC Ntsetsao Viola Motsumi
North West Department of Education



education

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North West Provincial Government
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Peer Education Programmes Strengthen Learner Retention in Dr Kenneth Kaunda District



Learners and Officials during the Peer Education Programme.

Dr Kenneth Kaunda District, Life Skills HIV/AIDS Unit continues to advance learner wellbeing and retention through the implementation of Peer Education programmes in both existing and newly participating schools.

The purpose of the Peer Education programme is to empower learners to support and educate one another on social and behavioural issues that negatively affect school attendance and performance.

Keeping Girls in School (KGIS) focuses on reducing barriers faced by girls, including learner pregnancy, menstrual health challenges, and gender-based violence. Keeping Boys in School (KBIS) supports boys by promoting positive masculinity, responsibility, discipline, and healthy decision-making. Radically Different Species (RADS) promotes gender equality, respect, consent, and non-violent relationships, contributing to safer school environments.

Dr Kenneth Kaunda District remains committed to supporting schools through training of peer educators and mentors, strengthening stakeholder partnerships, and ensuring learner-centred interventions that promote education continuity.

The Peer Education District Support Meeting was held on 7 February 2026 at Ngwenya Hotel facilitated by Chief Education Specialist for Life Skills HIV/AIDS, Ms Poppy Diale and District Coordinators. The programme was supported by Department of Health, Learner Support Agents, Educators from Special Schools as well as mainstream Schools.

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North West Education Department Marks World Obesity Day with School Awareness Programme

By: Mphata Molokwane



Mr. Baitso Lekalaka addressing Officials and Learners during World Obesity Day.

The North West Department of Education commemorated World Obesity Day with an awareness programme at EP Lekhela Primary School, aimed at addressing the growing concern of childhood obesity and promoting healthier lifestyles among learners.

The event brought together education officials, NSNP fieldworkers, teachers, dietitians, and learners to highlight the importance of balanced nutrition and regular physical activity in schools.

During the session, dietitian Mr. Monyama revealed that several learners aged between 6 and 14 have a Body Mass Index (BMI) that falls outside the expected range for their age. The finding points to the need for early intervention to address poor eating habits and low levels of physical activity.

Officials used the platform to encourage learners to reduce their intake of processed foods and sugary drinks, while increasing consumption of fruits, vegetables, and nutritious meals.

Learners were also urged to participate in school sports and physical activities, with officials noting that regular exercise supports healthy weight, improves concentration, and enhances overall well-being.

The Department emphasized that while schools play a key role in shaping healthy behaviours, parents and communities must also support learners in maintaining healthy lifestyles beyond the classroom.



Dietitian Mr. Monyama providing health guidance to Learners and Officials.



Learners and Officials in attendance at the event.



Group picture of audience attending Obesity Day.



Deputy Chairperson of the FPB, Prof Siyasanga Malwane

FILM PUBLICATION BOARD COMMEMORATES WORLD SAFER INTERNET DAY

By Tshegofatso Molopyane & Karabo Dichaba

As the world commemorated Safer Internet Day under the theme “Safe Tech, Safe Choices – Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of AI,” the Film and Publications Board (FPB), in partnership with Government Communication, the Department of Basic Education, the Mahikeng Local Municipality, and digital platforms Google, Meta, and Netflix, honoured the day at Mmabatho Civic Centre on 10 February 2025.

The initiative aimed to enlighten learners, School Governing Bodies (SGBs), parents, and relevant stakeholders on the importance of online safety, responsible digital behaviour, and the wise and ethical use of the internet and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence.

Learners from Sol Plaatjie Secondary School, Mmabatho High School, Kgosi Kebalepile Secondary School, Molelwane Secondary School, and Living Faith Combined School were honoured to participate.

In opening the ceremony, the Executive Mayor of Mahikeng Local Municipality, Councillor Tshepiso Mphelohlo, expressed his sincere appreciation to the Film and Publications Board for selecting Mahikeng as the hosting municipality.

The Mayor further commended the FPB for prioritising learner participation, highlighting that the knowledge and understanding gained would empower learners to make informed and responsible online choices, while also enabling them to guide and support their peers and parents in using the internet safely and wisely.

The event was further graced by the presence of key stakeholders, including the Acting Deputy Director-General for Government Communication, Ms Renelwe Molokomme, FPB Chief Executive Officer, Advocate Norman Gidi, Deputy Chairperson of the FPB, Prof Siyasanga Malwane, Ngaka Modiri Molema District School Safety Coordinator, Mr Mosimanegape Dire, and the Provincial School Safety Coordinator, Ms Boitumelo Lekwape, whose participation reinforced the collective commitment to protecting and empowering learners in the digital space.



*Acting Deputy Director
General for Government
Communication
Ms R Molokomme*



*Netflix Representative
in attendance*

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Lesson Study Seminar

By Tshegofatso Molopyane & Karabo Dichaba

The Ngaka Modiri Molema District successfully hosted a two-day Lesson Study Seminar from 12–13 February 2026 at Sol Plaatjie Secondary School. The seminar brought together educators, Provincial and GET Coordinators, Subject Advisors, University Lecturers, and strategic partners to strengthen curriculum delivery and enhance the teaching of Mathematics for understanding through the lesson study approach.

The primary objective of the seminar was to create a collaborative platform for meaningful engagement on effective lesson planning and instructional strategies. Through structured discussions and practical demonstrations, participants explored innovative methodologies aimed at improving learner comprehension and academic performance in Mathematics.

The Cluster One Circuit Coordinator, Mr J.C. Muhloyo, officially welcomed delegates to the district, which continues to thrive under the guiding mantra #ExcellenceOurHeartbeat. In his address, he acknowledged the invaluable support of Department of Basic Education officials, lecturers from various institutions of higher learning, and key stakeholders dedicated to improving educational outcomes.

Day One featured insightful presentations by Ms C.F. Mtumtum, representing the Department of Basic Education, and Dr D. Sekao from the University of Pretoria. Their presentations reflected current challenges in Mathematics education nationally, while highlighting innovative and practical strategies to enhance learner understanding and performance. Emphasis was placed on purposeful lesson planning and equipping educators with effective tools to strengthen classroom practice.

Valuable contributions were also made by Maskew Miller Learning and strategic partners, including Professional

Educators' Union (PEU), National Professional Teachers' Organisation of South Africa (NAPTOSA), Association for Mathematics Education of South Africa (AMESA), and South African Democratic Teachers' Union (SADTU). These engagements fostered robust discussions on lesson planning, instructional support, and sustainable collaboration in advancing Mathematics education.

A highlight of the seminar was the practical Grade 9 lesson, during which learners from Sol Plaatjie Secondary School actively participated in a live classroom session. This formed an integral part of the lesson study process, allowing educators to observe the implementation of strategic teaching methodologies within an authentic learning environment. The session was followed by a structured post-lesson reflection, where educators critically analysed the effectiveness of the strategies applied and identified areas for improvement to enhance learner participation in daily teaching and learning.



Ms C.F.M Mtumtum from Department of Basic Education



Dr K.B Samuel from North West University



Grade 6 practical class



Dr D Sekao from University of Pretoria

As the seminar progressed into Day Two, delegates reflected on the meaningful engagements of the first day, which laid a solid foundation for the implementation of identified strategies. Proceedings commenced with a message of support from Dr K.B. Samuel, who strongly advocated the importance of such professional development platforms and encouraged Mathematics educators to embrace their roles as critical thinkers and problem solvers in the classroom.

Grade 6 learners from Sol Plaatjie Primary School participated in the second practical lesson presentation and observation session. This was followed by a constructive reflection led by the study team educators, who identified areas for refinement and explored effective planning strategies to ensure comprehensive understanding of Mathematical concepts. The reflective process underscored the importance of thorough lesson preparation and continuous professional growth.

partners, and dedicated educators who continue to invest their expertise in promoting quality Mathematics education. Their collective efforts contribute meaningfully towards making Mathematics accessible, engaging, and enjoyable for all learners.

Through collaborative initiatives such as this Lesson Study Seminar, the Ngaka Modiri Molema District reaffirms its unwavering commitment to strengthening teaching and learning, improving learner performance, and realising its shared vision.



Ms C.F.M. Mtumtum and Dr D. Sekao further emphasised the relevance of Mathematics in everyday life by demonstrating its practical applications. Their insightful contributions strengthened educators' understanding and provided clear guidance for the effective implementation of the strategies explored during the seminar.

The district extends sincere appreciation to Dr L.B. Mokotedi, Provincial and District GET Coordinators, Subject Advisors, University Lecturers, strategic



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The North West Department of Education SASCE Workshop for Early Childhood Development Practitioners

By Tshegofatso Molopyane & Karabo Dichaba



Ms Dineo Mosid and Ms Pink Senatle taking the lead in guiding ECD practitioners during the workshop.

The North West Department of Education successfully hosted a South Africa School Choral Eisteddfod (SASCE) Workshop for Early Childhood Development (ECD) practitioners in Ngaka Modiri Molema District on the 10th March 2026 at Bophelong Special School. The series of workshops are conducted by DCES Arts, Culture and Music, Ms Dineo Mosidi across the province with a purpose of outlining the rules of the SASCE Competitions and taking the Practitioners through the 2026 ECD Song.

Practitioners also received tips on what adjudicators look for during the competition; and were encouraged to familiarize themselves with the song prior to preparing learners. They were requested to let the little ones use their natural voices and above everything, enjoy the competitions.

The workshop was attended by the District DCES for

School Enrichment Mr Thabo Mmolai, District ECD Coordinator Ms Kerileng Paadi, SES's Ms Pinkie Senatle and Ms Germinah Maetso, and the LEO ECD Coordinators.

Music plays a vital role in Early Learning Centres, fostering cognitive development, creativity, and language skills. It enhances memory, concentration, and social interaction, laying a strong foundation for lifelong-learning. Through music, young learners explore emotions, develop rhythm, and build confidence. The Department is therefore confident that the ECD SASCE competitions for 2026 will be a success and all Centres will take part.



Members of the audience participating in the workshop.



Thabo Molai making an input during SASCE Workshop for Early Childhood Development Practitioners

Career Exhibition Expo Inspires Learners in Bojanala

By Tshepo Notsi



Learners attending career expo in Bojanala District.



Learners engaging with career career guiders.



Learners engaging with career career guiders.

Bojanala District successfully hosted the 2026 Career Exhibition Expo at the Rustenburg Civic Centre, bringing together key stakeholders from industry and higher education to guide learners in shaping their future careers.

The mining giants Sibanye Still Waters, Valtera Mine, and Siyanda Bakgatla Mine, joined forces with leading tertiary institutions, North West University, UNISA and TVET to showcase career opportunities and provide valuable advice. Learners were able to explore stalls, collect brochures, and engage directly with professionals to better understand how their current subject choices align with future career paths.

The expo was held in two phases to accommodate the large number of schools in Bojanala District, Madibeng and Moretele LEO Schools attended from the 9th –12th February 2026 while Rustenburg and Moses Kotane LEO Schools attended from the 24th – 27th February 2026.

To ensure a smooth participation, learners were systemized into groups of over 600, with each group comprising 4–5 schools depending on the enrolment. Each group was allocated one hour to interact with exhibitors, maximizing exposure while maintaining efficiency.

Learners interacted directly with industries and tertiary institutions, bridging the gap between school subjects and future careers. The idea of grouping ensured fairness and efficiency, allowing thousands of learners to benefit without overcrowding. The event highlighted strong partnerships between education authorities, mining companies, universities and colleges.

Ms MA Mogome, Ms GP Chukudu, Ms NIR Moraka “This initiative continues to be a cornerstone in preparing our learners for the future,” said the Bojanala District Career Exhibition Expo coordinators. “By connecting schools with industry leaders and universities.

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A Call to Excellence: Director General’s Visit to Bojanala District

By Rethabile Ntshole



Director General Mr. Mweli addressing learners.

On the 28th January 2026, in a resounding testament to the District’s unwavering commitment to Education Excellence, the Director-General of the Department of Basic Education, Mr. HM Mweli, visited the Bojanala District in North West Province, South Africa, to motivate and inspire Grade 12 learners to strive for academic excellence. His visit aimed to encourage learners to work hard and achieve outstanding results in the 2026 academic year.

As he toured the District, Mr. Mweli visited 11 schools in the Bojanala District, including Die Hoerskool Wagpos, Hoerskool Brits, Eletsa Secondary, Ikatisong Secondary, Hebron Technical Secondary, Mmanotshe Moduane Secondary, Mamodibo Secondary, Lolwane Secondary, Ithuteng Secondary, Molebatsi Secondary, and Motshegwa Secondary. At each school, he delivered a passionate speech, emphasising the importance of hard work, dedication, and community support.

At Die Hoerskool Wagpos, Mr. Mweli recognised the top Grade 11 learner from 2025 academic year Gideon Mostert, who achieved outstanding results: 90% in Business Studies, 92% in Mathematics, 96% in Accounting,

85% in Computer Application Technology, and 87% in Afrikaans Huistaal. Mr. Mweli praised Gideon’s commitment to his studies and encouraged him to continue striving for excellence. As part of his motivation, Mr Mweli shared five valuable nuggets for academic achievement, based on the “Learner Support Programme” namely:

- 1. Attend School Daily and on Time: Ensure consistent attendance and punctuality to stay on top of the curriculum.**
- 2. Pay Attention in Class: Actively listen to teachers, observe what they are doing, and take notes during every lesson.**
- 3. Follow a Personal Study Timetable: Structure daily study time (aiming for at least six hours, studying at least two subjects per day) and include home language in your planning.**
- 4. Practice with Past Question Papers (“Read and Practice”): Use study materials such as textbooks, notes, and past examination**

papers from the last five years to practice, focusing on correcting mistakes using memoranda.

5. Peer Support and Discipline (Be your sister or brother’s keeper): Instil self-discipline, and act as your “brother’s or sister’s keeper” by supporting, teaching, and learning from fellow learners, take care of each other as no learner must be left behind.

Mr. Mweli emphasised on targeting 100% for the 2026 academic year and announced that the Minister will release the results of the Matric Class of 2026 on January 12, 2027. His visit was a resounding success, with learners and educators alike expressing gratitude for his inspiration and guidance. As Mr. Mweli concluded his visit, the District was left with hope and knowledge to strive for better, pushing the Province to continue striving for excellence and moving from good to great.



Mr. Mweli addressing learners.



Teachers and Learners in attendance.

Bojanala District hosts the International Women’s Day Celebration: “Give to Gain”

By Tshepo Notsi

In a warm 20th March evening in Rustenburg, the Sparkling Waters Resort played host to a powerful celebration, International Women’s Day, brought to life by the Department of Education, Bojanala District Circuits Coordination. The theme, “Give to Gain,” set the tone for an unforgettable night of inspiration, empowerment, and triumph.

As the curtains opened, Mrs. A. Rasesemola, Circuit Coordinator for Rustenburg and Moses Kotane LEO, welcomed everyone with open arms, highlighting the significance of empowering women in education. “Tonight, we gather to honour the incredible women of our district, inspiring women in the education sector to empower themselves and each other, turning every act of giving into a powerful gain for women’s advancement in education,” she declared.



Mr Lato Ntwape and Ms Agnes Rasesemola during the celebration.



Departmental Officials in Attendance.



Departmental Officials in Attendance.

The room came alive with the stories of remarkable women from various Local Education Offices (LEOs) within the Bojanala District. Each guest shared her journey, struggles, and successes, embodying the spirit of “Give to Gain.” From overcoming obstacles to achieve academic excellence to tales of empowering colleagues, every narrative resonated with the theme and left the audience in awe. As the music flowed from the live band, the energy in the room was palpable. The Acting District Director, Dr. L.F. Ntwape, delivered a heartfelt speech, embracing the women of the district, while Dr. Thani, a guest lecturer from Wits University, offered a Message of Support.

The highlight of the evening was the keynote address by Ms. Mokgalane, Chief Executive Officer of SACE. She emphasized the importance of professional identity, encouraging women leaders to remain grounded in their values and prioritize their own well-being. Her recommendation of the book “Falling Forward” by Rachel Kolisi left the audience inspired and motivated. As the evening drew to a close, Mr. Kedikilwe, Circuit As the evening drew to a close, the energy in the room remained electric, a testament to the power of women supporting women. The “Give to Gain” celebration had achieved its goal, inspiring and empowering the women of

Bojanala District to continue striving for excellence. As Mr. Kedikilwe, Coordinator for Madibeng and Moretele LEO, invited everyone to join in the “clock it” gesture, the message was clear: when women uplift women, everyone gains. The event may have ended, but its impact will resonate for a long time, driving positive change in the education sector and beyond. He thanked everyone for their presence, announcing that the celebration would become an annual event. He encouraged attendees to develop a culture of reading and rise above the challenges they face.

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AVBOB Celebrates a Milestone: 75th Library Container Donated to Mokasa Primary School in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District

By: Poloko Koolatotse

AVBOB marked a significant milestone with the official handover of its 75th library container to Mokasa Primary School in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District. The ceremony that was held on Thursday 12 March 2026, brought together esteemed guests, including government officials, community leaders and school representatives.

The event was graced by notable dignitaries such as District Director Ms Mojakhumo Dithejane, MMC for Greater Taung Local Municipality, Kgosi Lehatshe Mankuroane from Batlhaping ba ga Phuduhutswana Tribal Authority and Greater Taung Mayor. Also in attendance was AVBOB General Manager Ms Kebo Mosweusweu, Mokasa Primary School Principal and Deputy Principal and members of the School Governing Body.

On behalf of the entire school community, Principal Mr Pako Khonkhobe expressed heartfelt appreciation to AVBOB for the generous donation of an exclusive library container. "Today marks a very special and important milestone for our school in the history of its existence. Your support demonstrates that you believe in the power of education and in the potential of our children," the Principal stated.

The donation is an investment in the future of learners and the broader community, providing access to books and learning resources that will improve literacy skills and broaden knowledge beyond the classroom. The library container is seen as more than just a repository for books; it's a doorway to knowledge, imagination and opportunity.

For many learners, it will become a space where dreams are nurtured, curiosity is encouraged, and a love for reading is developed. It is expected to have a significant impact on the school and wider community, promoting a culture of learning and educational development. "Your support has brought us one step closer to empowering our learners with the tools they need for a brighter future, and we are very much thankful for that," the Principal concluded.

District Director of the Department of Education, Ms Mojakhumo Dithejane delivered a message of appreciation on behalf of the department. In her address, she expressed genuine gratitude to AVBOB for the generous donation. "We are thrilled to receive this wonderful gift, which will undoubtedly enhance the learning experience of our learners," she said. Ms Dithejane acknowledged the pivotal role that libraries play in fostering a love for reading and improving literacy rates. "This library container will provide our learners with access to a wide range of books and resources, broadening their horizons and opening doors to new opportunities," she added. She commended AVBOB for their commitment to education and community development, stating that their support demonstrates a shared vision for a brighter future for the children of Mokasa and surrounding areas. **"We appreciate your investment in the future of our learners and the broader community,"** she said.



The Director also highlighted the crucial importance to protect the newly handed over library. “As we celebrate this milestone, I want to take a moment to address our community members. This library is a gift to our children, a resource that will benefit our entire community. I urge you, let us protect and preserve it. Let us not allow vandalism or destruction to undermine the good that this library will bring. To those who tend to protest, I understand your concerns and frustrations. But let us not take out our frustrations on this library or other community assets. Instead, let us work together to find solutions and build a better future for our children. Let us cherish and safeguard this library, and ensure that it continues to inspire and educate our children for generations to come.” urged the District Director.

AVBOB General Manager Ms Mosweusweu emphasized the importance of access to quality education and the role that libraries play in fostering a love for reading. “This library is more than just a container; it’s a gateway to knowledge, imagination, and opportunity,” she said. Ms Mosweusweu highlighted AVBOB’s long-standing commitment to community development, with a focus on education and literacy. “We believe that every child deserves access to quality education, and we’re proud to partner with communities to make that a reality,” she added.

The General Manager also announced that AVBOB is

inviting other schools to apply for the Trolley Library service. “Our Trolley Library is a mobile library service that brings books to schools in rural areas, providing learners with access to a wide range of reading materials,” she explained. Schools interested in the service can contact AVBOB directly to inquire about the application process or go the organizations website. The library container is equipped with books, furniture, and spelling bee resources, providing a conducive learning environment for learners.

AVBOB’s container library program has benefited numerous schools in rural areas, promoting literacy and a love for reading among learners. The organization’s efforts have contributed to improved education outcomes and a brighter future for communities.

Kgosi Lehatshe Mankuroane from Bathaping ba ga Phuduhutswana Tribal Authority closed the event by acknowledging all the attendees and AVBOB. “On behalf of the Tribal Authority, I express our sincere gratitude to AVBOB for this generous donation. This library will unlock doors of opportunity for our children, fostering a love for reading and learning that will benefit our community for generations to come. We also thank the Department of Education for their tireless efforts in improving education outcomes in our district. Your support and collaboration are invaluable”.

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BLUE RIBBON BROUGHT SMILES TO LEARNERS OF KEGAKILWE PRIMARY SCHOOL

By Tshidiso Masiga

This is a heart-warming initiative by Blue Ribbon in an effort to promote dignity and improving school attendance. They donated shoes to learners of Kegakilwe Primary School at Tlakgameng in Kagisano Molopo Local Education Office on the 20th February 2026. Blue Ribbon donation aimed to support children from disadvantaged households by providing essentials to aid their daily attendance for the academic year.



A total of 100 pairs of toughies school shoes and 100 loaves of bread were handed over to the school during the initiative. The donation was not only aimed to provide essential school footwear, but to ease the burden on families who cannot afford to provide as well.

During the handover, Mr Phillemon Botshelo, a sales representative from Blue Ribbon, said it is the company's responsibility to support the communities in which it operates. "We chose this school because it is in the area where we supply bread. There was no specific criteria used for this selection", he said.

Learners expressed their excitement and gratitude through song and dance, filling the school assembly with joy as they proudly received their new shoes. The atmosphere was vibrant, with smiles and cheers reflecting the positive impact of the donation on the children.

The Chairperson of the School Governing Body (SGB) delivered a heartfelt vote of thanks, expressing sincere appreciation to Blue Ribbon for its generous contribution. The chairperson also encouraged the company to continue with the initiative and to keep supporting schools within the community. "This donation will make a huge difference", said the chairperson.

The donation marked a meaningful gesture of corporate social responsibility, strengthening the relationship between the business sector and the local community while restoring confidence and dignity among learners. The school, which serves predominantly underprivileged community, was thrilled with the generosity.



Learners of Kegakilwe Primary School receiving school shoes

Empowering Females In Leadership and Management

By Rebaone Ganakgomo

Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District hosted a capacity-building workshop aimed at empowering female principals including newly appointed ones; Deputy Principals and Departmental Heads on the 03rd March 2026 at Vryburg Primary School. The workshop focused on strengthening leadership capacity and enhancing school functionality through effective and efficient management practices.

The initiative forms part of the district's ongoing commitment to developing women in leadership and ensuring that schools are managed with excellence, integrity and professionalism. The workshop provided a platform for newly appointed female School Management Team (SMT) members to gain practical knowledge, share experiences and build networks that will support them in their new roles.

The workshop was directed by Ms Mokgothu K. and ensured the smooth coordination of the day's activities. The event was further enriched by presentations from respected female managers respectively, including: Ms Keepile E, Ms Modise K.D., Ms Maretela M.P., Ms Mphatse, Ms Mekgwe K.V. , Ms Jantjie M, Ms Setlaleleng L, Ms Mokoai P and Ms Kamenje

E.D Each presenter contributed valuable insights aimed at strengthening management practices, improving school governance, and promoting collaboration within school leadership teams. Another notable session was facilitated by Ms Mokoai P, who focused on team building and effective communication. To illustrate the importance of clear communication within leadership structures, she engaged ten female managers in an interactive activity commonly known as "Telephone Charades." The exercise required participants to pass a non-verbal message down a line through actions only, without speaking.

Out of six rounds, only one message was accurately conveyed from start to finish. The activity effectively demonstrated how easily communication can become distorted and highlighted the need for clarity, consistency, and accountability in school management. The session reinforced that strong teamwork and effective communication are critical to ensuring that schools operate efficiently and that messages are conveyed accurately within management structures.



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Ms Kamenje E.D from Human Resource delivered an impactful presentation on leave management during the workshop. Her delivery was both authoritative and engaging, reflecting a deep understanding of the subject matter while maintaining strong interaction. She provided comprehensive insights into leave management processes, policies and practical application, ensuring that attendees were well-informed.

The session was further enriched by a dynamic and highly interaction, where she addressed a broad spectrum of queries with clarity and professionalism. Her contribution significantly enhanced the overall success of the workshop and reinforced the importance of effective leave management within our district.

One of the key highlights of the programme was a presentation by Ms Ralithare B, who addressed the topic of self-concept in leadership. Her presentation underscored the importance of understanding one's purpose and identity as a leader. She encouraged the newly appointed managers to lead by example, remain solution-oriented in times of conflict and foster supportive environments within their schools.

She emphasized that effective leadership requires empathy and accessibility — being attentive to staff members who need guidance, offering support to those facing challenges and providing sound advice where necessary. Her presentation resonated strongly with attendees and reinforced the importance of values-driven leadership.

The workshop successfully created a supportive and empowering environment for newly appointed female leaders. It provided practical tools, inspiration, and encouragement to enable them to carry out their responsibilities with confidence and professionalism. Through initiatives such as this, the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District Department of Education continues to invest in the development of women leaders, strengthening school management teams and ultimately enhancing the quality of education across the district. The workshop marked an important step in building capable, confident, and collaborative female leadership within the District's schools.





Youth Impact Visit to North West Department of Education

By Bonolo Kamanyane

Since 2024, the North West Department of Education (NW DBE) has partnered with Youth Impact to implement the Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) remedial programme, aimed at improving foundational numeracy outcomes across the province. This initiative forms part of the broader mathematics improvement strategy, ensuring that learners strengthen their understanding of basic operations through targeted, level-appropriate instruction.

By the end of Term 1 in 2026, the programme had reached 10,456 learners across 99 schools, trained 235 teachers, and created 40 youth employment opportunities.



Team North West led by Superintendent-General, Mr Lengane Bogatsu together with Youth Impact representatives.



Mr Simon Montjane pinpointing the importance of partnership in Education.



Youth Impact officials engaging with Departmental officials.



A Notable Improvement in School Performance

By Poloko Koolatotse

Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District convened its inaugural principals' meeting on Thursday, 22 January 2026 at Vryburg High School, situated within the Naledi Local Municipality. The gathering brought together District Management team, school principals and district officials to reflect on achievements, challenges and strategies for continuous improvement in quality education delivery.

During the welcome address, the District Director, Ms Mojakhumo Dithejane emphasized the dual purpose of the meeting i.e. celebration and introspection. "We are here to celebrate ourselves but more importantly, to do an introspection of ourselves because we have done both right and wrong," noted District Director.

She highlighted that despite challenges, the District has reasons to celebrate, as it has begun to unleash its potential. She stressed that demographics should not define the district's performance, urging principals and Circuit Managers to push beyond perceived limitations. "Our full potential must be unleashed in the 2026 academic year," she said, warning against complacency. "I humbly appeal to all Circuits Managers, Principals and office based officials present here not to become

complacent by celebrating from January to March, only to realize, by June, that we have dropped the ball. Let us remain steadfast in our efforts, maintaining focus and momentum throughout the year to ensure our learners achieve their fullest potential, your unwavering dedication is crucial to sustaining the progress we have made and to continuing our journey toward excellence"; said district Director.

The Director further called on school leaders to know their purpose, actualize it and register their mark so that their contributions are recognized. Reaffirming the district's commitment to excellence, she announced the adoption of a 95%–100% performance target across all schools, from Grade R to Grade 12. "No school must obtain anything less than a 95% pass rate." She outlined the key drivers of this ambitious goal: "95%–100% performance is achievable through monitoring of in-school moderation, quality assessment, attendance and leave management, robust LAIP implementation, evidence-based reporting and accountability at all levels." The Director added announcing these elements as the vehicle that have propelled the District to its current level of success.

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According to presentations by Ms Gasealahwe, Curriculum Services CES and Mr Meyer, the District Examination and Assessment Manager, Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District has shown remarkable progress in school performance, with a steady increase in the number of Bachelor passes recorded in recent years. This upward trend reflects the district's collective efforts to strengthen teaching and learning, enhance learner support, and promote accountability at all levels of the education system.

When compared to previous academic years, the district's results reveal a clear trajectory of growth. More learners are not only meeting the requirements for grade promotion but are also qualifying for bachelor-level studies, opening doors to higher education opportunities across South Africa. This improvement signals that schools within the district are responding positively to interventions such as in-school moderation, quality assessments and robust learner attendance monitoring. Stakeholders, including school principals, teachers, parents and district officials, have all played a role in this success. Their shared commitment to academic excellence has created a culture of high expectations, where learners are encouraged to aim for nothing less than their full potential.

Looking ahead, the district remains hopeful that the number of bachelor passes will continue to rise each year. With sustained focus on evidence-based reporting, effective implementation of learning and teaching improvement plans and accountability at every level, the district is well-positioned to maintain its momentum and achieve even greater outcomes. Attendees were provided with fully loaded presentations containing detailed information and guidelines from various sub-directorates:

- Financial Management Services, which outlined staff debts/overpayments, budgeting processes, expenditure monitoring and accountability measures to ensure prudent use of school funds.
- Human Resources Services, where labour relations gave guidance on workplace policies, dispute resolution. Updates on leave management, pension, PMDS, various types of claims and professional development opportunities for educators was also presented.
- Learner Support Services highlighted strategies for improving learner well-being, NSNP, inclusive education

and interventions to support at-risk learners.

- Corporate Services urged schools to complete maintenance plans for 2026, encouraged schools to use NWED emails. Also shared 2026 District plans during the presentation i.e. the maintenance projects, construction of new classrooms, drilling of new boreholes, provision of mobiles.

The presentations served to equip school leaders with practical tools and knowledge to strengthen management, enhance learner outcomes, and ensure smooth operations across all schools in the district.

The progress made so far serves as both a celebration of hard work and a reminder that continuous improvement is possible when all role players remain dedicated to quality education. This meeting set a tone of high expectations, accountability and collective responsibility, signalling the district's resolve to achieve academic excellence in the years ahead. The District Director urged managers to be instructional, decisive, operational, and policy imperative leaders, during her closing remarks.



District Director, Ms Mojakhumo Dithejane addressing the audience.

Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati's Young Environmental Champions Shine at District Finals

By Poloko Koolatitse and Rebaone Ganakgomo

In a powerful demonstration of environmental awareness, innovation, and youthful determination, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in collaboration with Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Department of Education, hosted the final stage of a prestigious Grade 7 Environmental Competition. The highly anticipated event was held at the Klondike Guest Lodge on the 27 February 2026, where six outstanding schools gathered to compete for top honours after successfully progressing through earlier rounds across the District. The schools participated i.e. Botshelo Primary, Kamogelo Primary, Thibogang Primary, Saruchera Primary and Kwala Kitso Primary earned their positions in the finals based on the strength, originality and impact of their preliminary presentations. Representing their respective schools, the learners arrived with confident, well prepared and ready to display hours of research, creativity and teamwork.

The competition centred around a compelling and globally relevant topic; "Significance of Combating Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought." Learners were required to design informative, visually engaging posters and deliver structured oral presentations before a panel of judges. Their projects explored the negative impact of human activities that contribute to desertification, land degradation and drought; while also proposing practical solutions and highlighting long-term benefits of rehabilitating damaged land. The depth of understanding displayed by the learners was remarkable, reflecting not only academic excellence but also a genuine commitment to environmental stewardship.

The standard of presentations was exceptionally high. Learners articulated complex environmental concepts with clarity, confidence, supported by creative illustrations and well-researched content. The atmosphere in the venue was filled with anticipation, pride, a strong sense of purpose as each school took to the stage. It was evident that the competition had sparked meaningful conversations about sustainability, responsibility and the critical role young people play in safeguarding natural resources.

The event was adjudicated by an esteemed and distinguished panel from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment. The panel comprised Ms Lebogang Mereeke, Azwinaki Muingi, Eamann Hlungwani, Precious Kuntwane, and Macheuene Tshepape — professionals whose expertise and dedication to environmental protection ensured a fair, transparent and thorough evaluation process. Their presence added credibility and significance to the occasion, further motivating learners to deliver their very best.



Lesedi Moalosi making an input during the Young Environmental Competition..



Some of the winners from the competition.

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Learner presenting during the event.



Some of the winners from the competition.



The audience in attendance.



Learner performing during the event.

With six schools competing and only three prizes awarded, the competition proved to be both intense and inspiring. The prizes reflected the importance of the initiative: first place received R45000.00, second place R35000.00 and third place R20000.00. Beyond the financial awards, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, committed to provide a three- to four-month period for schools to procure tools and resources that will assist in reducing pollution and promoting sustainable environmental practices within their school communities. Significantly, the Department will monitor progress to ensure that the projects translate into tangible environmental impact.

Addressing the learners, Ms Lesedi Moalosi delivered heartfelt and motivating words of encouragement. She reminded participants that reaching the district finals was already a significant accomplishment and a testament to their hard work and dedication. Emphasizing that success is not defined solely by ranking, she encouraged learners to see themselves as ambassadors of change within their schools and communities. She urged them to return to their respective schools and share their presentations with fellow learners, inspiring broader participation in future initiatives. Concluding her address, she left the audience with a powerful and timeless reminder: "You do not have to be great to start, but you need to start to be great!"

After careful deliberation by the judges, the final results were announced. Saruchera Primary School secured third place, Thibogang Primary School claimed second place and Kamogelo Primary School emerged victorious as the overall winner, proudly taking first place. The announcement was met with excitement and celebration, marking a memorable conclusion to a day filled with learning and achievement.

More than just a competition, the event served as a platform for nurturing environmentally conscious leaders. It highlighted the importance of empowering young learners with knowledge, practical skills and confidence to address pressing environmental challenges. Through collaborative partnerships, continued support, the District reaffirms its commitment to shaping a generation that understands the value of sustainability and is prepared to actively contribute to a greener, more resilient future.

Learner Pregnancy Prevention And Management Dialogue In Kagisano Molopo

By: Tshidiso Masiga

Teenage pregnancy remains a critical social and public health challenge in South Africa, continuing to affect the education, health and future opportunities of many young girls, especially those from vulnerable communities. In response to this ongoing concern, the Life Skills HIV/AIDS Unit under the Learner Social Support Services Directorate in the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District hosted a Learner Pregnancy Prevention and Management Dialogue on 12 February at the Ganyesa Community Hall. The event was attended by 16 schools from Kagisano Molopo Local Education Office.

A multi-sectoral approach was initiated by the Department of Education in collaboration with the South African Police Service (SAPS), Department of Home Affairs, Department of Social Development, Department of Health, Kagisano Molopo Foundation, Ganyesa Bikers and Kagisano Molopo Local Municipality. This was to demonstrate a united commitment to address the scourge of learner pregnancy and other social challenges affecting schools. District Coordinator of the Life Skills HIV/AIDS Unit, Mr Tong, explained that the purpose of the event was to strengthen the implementation of the Learner Pregnancy Prevention and Management Policy. He emphasized that the programme is structured around different priority areas, with each stakeholder playing a specific and vital role. While learner pregnancy prevention was the central focus, the dialogue also addressed other social ills affecting schools, including bullying, drug and substance abuse. Learners actively participated through role plays, poetry, presentations and a march from Koko Star T-Junction to the Community Hall, demonstrating their commitment to positive change.

SAPS introduced the Youth Commissioner Project, a junior leadership initiative aimed at empowering learners in Grades 8 to 10. Participants were required to write essays on bullying and drug and substance abuse. Seventeen learners from eight schools were selected to present their essays during the campaign.

The top four performers were appointed to youth

leadership positions:

Orefilwe Moepetsane – Station Commander

Olorato Disipi – Vispol Commander

Rorisang Boysen – Detective Commander

Lorate Mosimaneeng – Support Head

Orefilwe Moepetsane and Olorato Disipi represented Kagisano Molopo Local Education office at the district level competition scheduled for the 17th of February.

The Circuit Manager for the Ganyesa Circuit, Ms T.F. Mongale delivered a message of appreciation, thanking all stakeholders for their contribution to the success of the campaign. She urged learners to put into practice the knowledge and guidance shared during the dialogue in order to build a brighter future.

The event reaffirmed the district's commitment to creating safer school environments and ensuring that learners are supported, informed and empowered to make responsible life choices. All participants received certificates and goodie bags from SAPS and Kagisano Molopo Foundation in recognition of their involvement.



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Child Protection Campaign In Mamusa Local Municipality

On the 9th of February 2026, the Department of Education in collaboration with South African Police Service hosted a child protection campaign which was held at Ipelegeng Multi-Purpose Center in Schweizer Reneke, Mamusa Local Municipality.

The event was to call upon the community of Mamusa and schools management, to create a safe society for our children and reshape them in to being better leaders of tomorrow. Reflecting on the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and Children’s Act (Act No.38 of 2005) that focuses on the children’s right. The campaign likely focused on promoting a safe and supportive environment for learners. Empowering them with knowledge to protect themselves, further encouraging community involvement in addressing those social ills. Various government departments like Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (GOGTA), Department of Social Development, Department of health, Department of Justice, Department of Arts, Culture, Sport and Recreation, Office of the Mayor from Mamusa Local Municipality and non-government organisations i.e. society civil organizations such as Imologang Community Project, Spiritual crime prevention, Gear up 4 AGYW and Mamusa Initiation School Committee, played a crucial role in making the campaign a success. This initiative aimed to raise awareness about the pressing issues affecting young lives. The were key topics that were covered to address the six schools that attended being; Mampho, Itshupeng, Obang, Ipelegeng, Reabetswe and Hoerskool Schwiezer Reneke:

- Dangers of gangsterism
- Gender based violence and femicide
- School bullying
- Substance abuse

Learners actively engaged in topics relating to the challenges they encounter on daily basis, with Brigadier Tlotleng about bullying and substance abuse. Mrs. Sechogo from Social Development addressed learners on different types of abuse; physical, emotional and sexual. She emphasized on the difference between abuse and discipline. Ms. Lorato Manoko, District Education School Safety Coordinator, strongly declared zero tolerance

By Boitshoko Kgosietsile

of child abuse and bullying as social ills, they carry a potential to deprive learners of their constitutional rights to education, equality and dignity. Children in South Africa live in a society with a Constitution that has the highest regard of their rights hence it is in the hands of the community to ensure that they do not suffer in the hands of abuse and neglect.



Ms Sechogo advising learners to take care of themselves and their future.



Ms L Manoko encouraging community involvement on social ills.



Brigadier Tlotleng calling for a safe and supportive environment for learners.

SHAPING A HEALTHY FUTURE OF LEARNERS WITH NSNP

By Boitshoko Kgosietsile

Food is a primary need for a human survival as it assists with concentration and performing daily duties better. Children are the most vulnerable individuals as their bodies and minds are constantly growing and the need for them to have energy throughout the day. This highlights how important it is for learners to be provided with food in schools to concentrate, which cannot happen on an empty stomach.

Ever since the implementation of national school nutrition programme (NSNP) in 1994 by the department of basic education, there has been a lot of improvement in eradication of hunger and malnutrition at schools especially for learners who are from disadvantaged families. The programme provides learners with two nutritious meals a day in quintile 1-3 primary, secondary and special schools, now learners are able to participate actively in class, produce quality results and has boosted school attendance.

A unit of learner social support service (LSSS) led by the acting CES, Mr. O.P Metsi conducted NSNP training for the newly

appointed food handlers in Dr. RSM on the 11th to the 26th of February 2026. This training took place across all LEOs with the aim to equip these newly appointed employees with safety measures to handle food and combat the possibilities of food poisoning in schools.

The training had stakeholders like Home of Supreme Soya Company that provided a skill on how to properly prepare soya mince for the learners, EHP (Health environmental health practitioners from Dr. Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti district Municipality that focused more on Food hygiene, Temperature control and Hygiene requirements for the schools while Fire department had a practical session on how to use fire extinguisher and gas safety. NSNP officials from the head office and LEOs emphasized their training on types of food nutrition, hygiene, food storage, food portion. Each trainee received a brochure of the NSNP menu and guides to being a responsible food handler. They will serve a 24 months contract that will begin on the 1st of April 2026 to 31st of March 2028.



Nutritional foods used for display



A unit of learner social support service in attendance.



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Retirements



Ms Pamela Rasetshwane
Chief Director:
Strategy and Governance



Dr Charity Mojafi
Director: Institutional Development
Services



Mr William Modiroa
Acting Deputy Human Resource
Manager: Ngaka Modiri Molema



Mr Robert Mayeng
Circuit Manager: Kraaima Circuit



Mr Wiseman Sokupha
Circuit Manager: Itsoeng Circuit



Ms Nomhle Radebe
Circuit Manager: Bodibe Circuit



Mr Motladiile Jonas Legotlo
Security Services



**Mr
Tshegofatso Victor Baikai**
Security Services

Promotions and Transfers



Mr Benny Monale
Promoted: Chief Director
District Coordination



Mr Jacob Sekgobela,
Security Services
Transfer: North West
Department of Health

FAREWELL MESSAGE



Mr Jacob Sekgobela farewell message to the Department.



Indeed there is nothing good in good bye. I have mixed feelings about my departure from the Department of Education. It's a combination of joy and pain.

Joy in the sense that I am going to a new environment to meet new people. Pain in the sense that I am leaving the Department which I served for 11 years. I am going to miss my familiar environment (Colleagues and office).

I want to take this time to thank you **ALL** in particular for the working relations, we had during my tenure in Department of Department.

Please pass my sincere appreciation and regards to the Senior Management and the entire Staff in the Department.

The Bible in the book of 2 Timothy 4:7 says, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith". Verse 8 says "Now there is in store for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for His appearing".

I am leaving the Department of Education to the Department of Health. I am confident that we will cross paths again.

THANK YOU ALL FOR THE LOVE, YOU HAVE GIVEN TO ME IN ALL THESE YEARS.

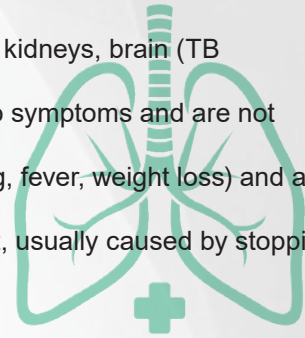
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TB AWARENESS MONTH

The month of March the world commemorates Tuberculosis Awareness Month, specifically marked on the 24th of March. TB awareness month aims to raise awareness and advocate for TB education and encourage TB treatment adherence as early detection saves lives. Tuberculosis is a disease caused by germs that spread from person to person through the air. TB usually affects the lungs but can also affect other parts of the body, such as the brain, kidneys and spine.

TYPES OF TUBERCULOSIS

- Pulmonary Tuberculosis which affects the lungs
- Extrapulmonary TB affects areas outside the lungs, including lymph nodes, kidneys, brain (TB meningitis), spine (Pott's disease)
- Latent TB Infection is when the bacteria are inactive in the body, causing no symptoms and are not contagious but can become active later.
- Active TB disease is when bacteria are active, causing symptoms (coughing, fever, weight loss) and are contagious.
- Drug resistant TB is when strains that do not respond to standard treatment, usually caused by stopping treatment before finishing the full course.



WHAT ARE TB SYMPTOMS

Common symptoms are coughing for any duration including coughing blood, night sweats, chest pains when coughing or breathing, unexplained weight loss and fever for more than two weeks, loss of appetite and fatigue.

WHAT TO DO IF I HAVE TB SYMPTOMS

The initial step is to do a TB screening and further go to the nearest healthcare facility for TB testing where sputum test or x-ray test will be sent to a laboratory for examination. If the results return as positive for pulmonary tuberculosis the person usually isolate for minimum of 2 weeks while taking treatment. After 2 weeks of treatment, you may return to work if the post tests indicate so or if it is ruled to be non-contagious by a medical practitioner.

WHAT HAPPENS TO MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS IF I HAVE CONTRACTED TB DISEASE

It is crucial for people you live with and work closely with to be screened and tested for TB, this assists in early TB detection and therefore early TB treatment. If they test negative for TB disease, they will be offered treatment for latent TB infection. This treatment will prevent them from developing active TB disease.

IMPORTANCE OF ADHERING TO TREATMENT

TB disease can be cured if detected early, treatment is administered for a period of 6 to 9 months depending on the type of TB disease you have. Taking full course of TB medication to cure the disease:

- Prevents TB spread to others and re-infection
- Prevents drug resistance as stopping treatment early can cause TB bacteria to mutate and therefore becomes harder to treat which can be life threatening.
- Prevents longer illness.

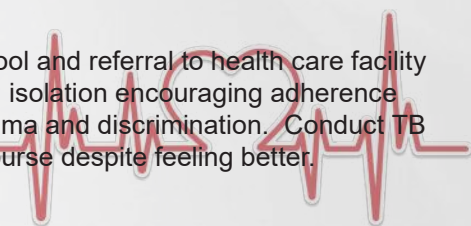
TB PREVENTION STRATEGIES

We can also prevent TB infection by wearing a face mask, ensuring there's enough ventilation, exercising regularly and eating healthy. As Employee Health and Wellness, we encourage for regular TB Screening through the TB Screening tool and most importantly TB treatment adherence as defaulting may cause TB resistance and further spread.

EHW ROLE

Employee Health and Wellness role is to administer TB screening tool and referral to health care facility for TB tests. We give support to the employee and the family during isolation encouraging adherence to treatment furthermore educating employees on the impact of stigma and discrimination. Conduct TB awareness sessions and advocate for TB adherence until end of course despite feeling better.

by Employee Health and Wellness Programme





North West Province Crowned As The Top Province In The 2026 Sasa Ii Championships

By Elias Malindi

The North West Province was crowned as the best province during the 2026 South African Sports Association for the Intellectually Impaired (SASA-II) Championships held on 23rd - 27th March 2026, at White River and Mbombela in Mpumalanga Province.

The North West Team obtained 3 top positions in the championship which contributed to its dominance at the tournament. The team walked away with top honours as follows:

Blackball Pool (Snooker) first position in both team events of Males and Females singles, first position in the Indoor Rowing with Johanna Dlamini, top position in the Female 500 metre, Ditebogo Tshoma obtained the best position in the Male 500 metre, Nonhlanhla Pine obtained the Best position in the Female 1 000 metre and Reitumetse Mpudi scooped the Best position in the Male 1000 metre, first position in Swimming whilst the province obtained the fourth position in the Table Tennis and Hockey respectively.

A total of 1800 participants (Athletes and Officials included) participated as part of the prestige event. The North West province through the Department of Education was represented by a team of 165 athletes and officials. The objective of the Championship is to make a pathway for athletes with an Intellectual Impaired Disability to become

eligible for the National South African team and thus become eligible for international participation.

The MEC for Education, Viola Motsumi congratulated the North West Team for obtaining the overall position in the SASA II Championship. "On behalf of the department I take this time to congratulate Team North West for obtaining the overall top position during the tournament. We are extremely proud of our learners who represented our province. The participation of learners in sport reflects the power of sport as a unifying force and platform for sport to remain a critical pillar in the holistic development of learners beyond the classroom.

"I wish to thank our teachers who are hard at work training these learners to be the best in extra-curricular activities. That also goes to parents for allowing their children to participate in different sporting codes. Our primary objective is to give learners a platform to shine and express themselves in all the co-curricular programmes", said MEC Motsumi. The North West Province is expected to host the South African Special Olympics on 26 June 2026, which will serve as the national team selection event for the Special Olympics South Africa (SOSA) World Games in Chile in 2027.



North West Province Celebrating Their 2026 SASA II Championship

"Building a North West Province That Works for All"

Dikgaisano Tsa Diatleletiki Tsa Dikolo Tsa Porofense Ya Bokonebophirima Setediamo SA Mc Athur, Tlokwe-05-07 Mopitlwe 2026

Ka Mongweotsile Tingwe

Go nnile le malatsi a le mararo a a mogote kwa Tlokwe, fa barutwana ba dikolo tse di farologaneng go tswa mo Porofenseng ya Bokonebophirima ba ne ba nkgisana magwafa mo diatleletiking. Go ya ka mogokaganyi wa dikgaisano tse, rre Thebe Sekoto, dikgaisano tseno di tshwarwa ngwaga le ngwaga mme maikaelelo ke go tlotlha dikgantshwane tse di tla emelang porofense kwa logatong lwa bosetšhaba. Dikgaisano di simolola mo logatong la dikgaolwana mme monate wa tsona bontlhabongwe di tlhokotsa tlhaloganyo, boitekanelo jwa mmele le jwa tlhaloganyo ya bana. Baithuti ba ne ba tswa mo dikgaolong tsotlhe tse nne tsa Porofense; Ngaka Modiri Molema, Ngaka Segomotsi Mompoti, Ngaka Kenneth Kaunda le Bojanala.

Dikgaisano tse di ne di akaretsa e bile di thankgotswa ke baithuti ba LSEN go tswa mo dikolong tse di kgethegileng mo porofenseng, tse bontsi di fitlhelwang kwa Ngaka Kenneth Kaunda, Ngaka Modiri Molema le Bojanala fa Ngaka Segomotsi Mompoti e ne e se na kemedi. Thankgologo e e dirilwe ka letsatsi la Labone Mopitlwe a le 5, mme ga latela ba dikolopotlana ka Labotlhano wa 6 Mopitlwe fa tse dikolokgolwane di konoseditse kgaisano ka Lamatlatso 7 Mopitlwe 2026.

Kgaisano e jaaka e le ya porofense, e ne e le makgaolakang a go itlhothela go tsenela dikgaisano tsa bosetšhaba tse di tla tshwarwang kgwedi eno ya Mopitlwe e ya fifing kwa Kapabophirima e le ba LSEN, fa tse dingwe di tla tshwarwa kgwedi e e latelang ya Moranang mono Bokonebophirima kwa Rustenburg. Dikgaisano di ne di diragadiwa mo lebaleng ka javeline, disekhase, šotophute, mottolo o moleele, wa godimo le wa seraro, fa tsa mola di akaretsa mogwanto, lebelo le lelele, le le lekhutshwane, dihedlele le moneeletsano. Ditiragalo tse tsotlhe di bontshitse gore porofense e na le dikgoni mo dikgwethlong tse di farologaneng.

Go a bontsha gore re na le setlhopha se re ka ipelang ka sona sa bo sa tla ka dimetale mo Bokonebophirima.



Rre Raymond Mofolo o abela bafenyi dikabo



Bathubalobelo ba gaisana ka go taboga



Mongwe wa bagaisani ba Disekhase o menne phatla mo kgaisanong



Mongwe wa bagaisani ba motlolo wa godimo o dira matshetse.



Dikgaisano tsa šotophute le tsona di ne di le teng.



Morulaganyi wa metshameko, Rre Thebe Sekoto o aba dikabo



Motlolo o moleele le ona o ne o rokotsa mathe.

Jaaka go twe pela e tlhokile mogatla ka go romeletsa, basimane le basetsana ba tlile ba itsetile megatla, ba itomile sankatlhe gore sepe se se ka sa ba tšhwamogela fa ba rutana magokonyane le dithaka tsa bone go tswa dikgaolong tse di farologaneng. Go ne go leba yo o sebete, baatlelete ba tlhoafetse go ipona ba fetetse kwa pele, ba le mowa mongwefela. Ke ka tsona dikgaisano tse go lemogwang selekanyo sa bokgoni se baithuti mo diatleletiking ba nang naso le gore a ba ka ya pele ka sona. Pharologano e ne e bonala fale le fale gore moithuti o ka tswa a tsema mofuta ofe wa sekolo, le gore katiso e ba e boneng e boleng bo kae; se e le ka ntlha ya maemo a a sa tshwaneng a dikolo. Fela, ga go ope yo neng a batla go ineela ka gope mo kgaisanong, fa fela mmele o letla go ne go iwa pele. Bagaisani ba ne tlhoafetse thata jaaka tonki e hupile tomo e batla go gorosa mong wa yone yo o mo godimo ga karaki!

Fa a tlhagisa maikaelelo a Lenaneo le, Mogokaganyi rre Sekoto o rile:

“The purpose of this elimination is to select a provincial team that will represent the North West Province in the national championship that will be hosted in Western Cape and Bojanala. Most of our participants are promising because the qualifying standards are very-very key. We are very happy that even today we are having athletes that are breaking the records; which is a good sign that when we go to Nationals we stand a good chance of acquiring some medals. At the end of the day, we just want to congratulate those who have already qualified and also appreciate the support by the parents, and we are preparing thoroughly for the 19th – 21st March for the National Championships in Cape town where the Primaries will be competing and at the beginning of April we’ll be having the Secondary Championship. With that being said, we want to say thank you very much to everyone; the coaches, the teachers, the schools, and the SGB; for supporting the School Enrichment and Sports within the North West Province.”

“Building a North West Province That Works for All”