



DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S 2018 2ND ROUND OF PROVINCIAL ENGAGEMENTS



Espousing the tenets of great leadership, the visionary, innovative, inclusive and trustworthy Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, took to the provinces on the second round of provincial engagements in July 2018.

The focus of the Director-General's second engagement with provinces was widely known, as it was based on the key deliverable for the third quarter: *Evaluating the state of readiness for the end of the year*. These one-day engagements are currently being conducted in all provinces.

In pursuit of advancing the agenda of continual improvement in learning outcomes, the Director-General, in his engagement with provinces, has ably demonstrated the four critical values that govern his leadership style: As a **principled** leader who is a life-long learner, he is using the opportunities presented to learn from provinces so that best practice can be applauded and replicated across the country. In listening to presentations made by provinces on the state of readiness for the forthcoming examinations, Mr Mveli does not renege on motivating officials to hold themselves and others to a high standard of excellence in contributing to the overall success of the education sector - a hallmark of an **ethical** leader. In offering guidance on various issues that emanate from the discussions with senior officials in the provinces, an honest appraisal, together with sound advice, recognising the strengths and areas for improvement in the next two months before the start of the examinations, are evidence of the Director-General's ability to engage **authentically** in open, honest communication; while at the same time offering compassionate and **kind** listening to needs and challenges. The quality of **PEAK** leadership, motivation and support that provinces are receiving from the Director-General's engagements, can only instill hope, optimism, possibility and promise that see the Basic Education Sector maintain its upward trajectory in the 2018 examinations!

As these engagements are concluded, an article will be published on Thuto on each province. In this week's edition, the engagement with the **Free State** is featured.

"Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back"

Nelson Mandela

"Everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated"

Nelson Mandela

"When people are determined they can overcome anything."

Nelson Mandela



basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



2ND ROUND OF PROVINCIAL ENGAGEMENTS IN FREE STATE



DBE take Free State to task to improve efficiency and quality in supporting schools

On 21 August 2018, Basic Education Director-General Mr Mathanzima Mveli, engaged the Free State senior officials as part of his provincial engagement meetings aimed at monitoring progress made by provincial education departments in supporting schools. Mr Mveli also focused his visit on assessing the state of provincial readiness in preparation for the 2018 National Senior Certificate examinations.

The Director-General indicated that it was imperative for provinces to improve curriculum coverage in the problematic subjects in the Foundation Phase to deal with curriculum deficits in the early years of children's schooling.

Speaking during his visit, Mr Mveli indicated: "The Province is still required to ensure that its districts contribute high volume of distinctions and bachelor passes to the Basic Education sector. According to a the DBE, the main contributors towards the distinctions achieved in 2017 NSC Examinations were KZN with **45 032**; Gauteng with **36 044**; Western Cape with **24 965**; Limpopo with **15 260**; and Eastern Cape with **14 492**. "It is remarkable to note that the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal and Limpopo – the three rural provinces, produced a combined total of **74 784** distinctions (**46.2%** of the total distinctions)," remarked the DBE.

In 2017, a total of **161 081** distinctions were achieved (compared to a total of 158 160 in 2016, and improvement of **1.8%**). In 2017, Free State achieved **86.1% with progressed learners included**, down from 88.2% achieved in 2016, a decline of **2.1%**.

Mr Mveli highlighted that the sector has to ensure that every learner, irrespective of race, gender, and cultural belief is supported to contribute in the trans-

formation of the South African economy. The Director-General said that districts have to put systems in place to assist progressed learners to achieve quality passes whilst addressing issues of efficiency and redress across the country.

In its presentation, Free State stated that the senior officials always visit the underperforming schools in various districts to improve quality learning outcomes. The province went on to say it will strengthen collaboration with the district officials to monitor standard and quality of the School Based Assessment. "We have introduced learner's enrichment programme in Mathematics, Natural Science, English Home Language, Sesotho and IsiZulu. We further trained teachers and Subject Advisors on the setting of standardised assessment tasks," reported the province.

The province further indicated that it will organise training workshop for teachers responsible for content areas that learners continued to experience challenges to improve quality learning and teaching.

The province stipulated that it is confident in the examination systems, adding that all the districts are finalising necessary processes to ensure effective administration of the NSC examination. The province is planning to host a Grade 12 pledge signing, which will take place on 12 October 2018. The schools with Grade 12 learners will use the occasion to finally wish these learners well with the examinations and to motivate them to study hard.

"The rationale for the Grade 12 Pledge signing is to assist with the curbing and control of examination irregularities, such as crib notes, copying etc. The pledge was introduced in 2013 as an attempt to adopt a more pro-active rather than a reactive approach to the reduction of examination irregularities," remarked the province.

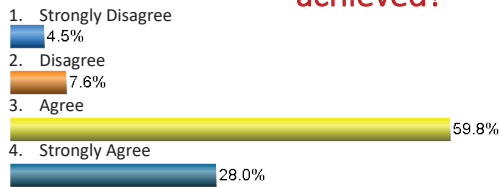


QUANTITATIVE FEEDBACK FROM PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT OFFICIALS

FREE STATE
21 AUGUST 2018

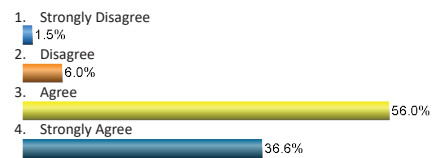


Q1 Has the purpose of the meeting been achieved?



The graph above shows that 28.0 % of officials strongly agreed that the purpose of the meeting was achieved, whilst 59.8% of the officials agreed that the purpose of the meeting was achieved. 7.6% of officials disagreed that the purpose of the meeting was achieved whilst the 4.5% of officials strongly disagreed.

Q2 Was the information and guidance shared by DBE relevant?



The graph above shows that 36.6% of officials strongly agreed that the information and guidance shared by the DBE was relevant whilst 56.0% agreed. Only 6.0% and 1.5% of officials disagreed and strongly disagreed, respectively, that the information and guidance shared by the DBE was relevant.



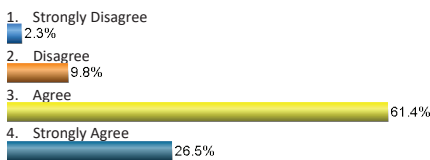


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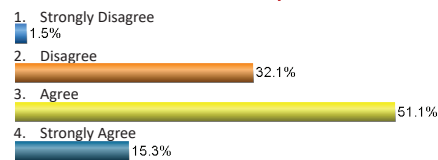


Q3 Were the presentations for the meeting well structured?



The graph above shows that 26.5% of officials strongly agreed that the presentations for the meeting were structured, whilst 61.4% of officials agreed and 9.8% of officials disagreed. Only 2.3% of officials strongly disagreed that the presentations for the meeting were structured.

Q4 Are the learners ready to write the end of the year Exams?



The graph above shows that 15.36% and 51.1% of officials strongly agreed and agreed, respectively, that learners are ready to write end of year examinations. 32.1% of officials disagreed whilst 1.5% strongly disagreed that learners are ready to write end of year examinations.



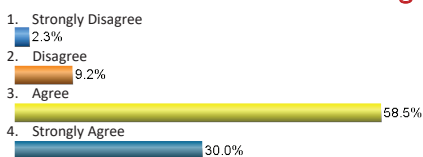


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Q5 Is the system ready for the administration of the examinations including the NSC?



The graph above shows that 30.0% of officials strongly agreed that the system is ready for the administration of the examinations including the NSC and 58.5% of officials agreed. Only 9.2% and 2.3% of officials disagreed and strongly disagreed, respectively, that the system is ready.



PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF THE DG'S VISIT TO FREE STATE







PROVINCIAL ENGAGEMENTS 2018

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