



THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL SUPPORTS THE "LAST PUSH" ACTIVITIES IN PROVINCES

The closure of schools for the Spring Break offered provinces an ideal opportunity to support learners with revision and consolidation activities (last push) through the "Spring Classes," before the commencement of the 2017 National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination. The Director-General of Basic Education, Mr HM Mweli, who is well known for "leading from the front" began his visit to the classes across the nine provinces. The purpose of the visit is to motivate learners to take advantage of the classes and buckle down to some serious studying so as to improve the quality of passes in the 2017 examination.

In responding to questions relating to the role and impact of these "Spring Classes, the Director-General said that "the Spring Classes are being institutionalised in provinces as one of two major consolidation of learning activities on the school calendar. While the organisation of the classes in each province may differ in the packaging of programmes, duration, number of subjects targeted etc they are essentially similar in outcomes. All the provinces are preparing learners towards improved examination results.

In encouraging learners to stay focused on their studies, Mr Mweli said that thorough preparation for the examination will decrease anxiety and raise confidence levels. It is important that learners remain calm, collected and this will only be possible if they leave no stone unturned in their quest for understanding concepts and content and knowing how to apply them in all subjects.

Some learners took the opportunity to confirm the value of the classes, citing that the classes provided them with space that is conducive to studying and that this augurs well for improved performance in the examinations.

In this week's Thuto, visits to all nine (9) provinces are featured.







Eastern Cape

Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mweli continued with his Spring Camp Monitoring Programme in the Eastern Cape Province on 02 October 2017, to give learners support in the last push intervention Programme. More than 2500 learners attended classes in various streams to revise and consolidate work covered in the past 10 months. During the visit,

Mr Mweli addressed the Grade 12 learners in various centres including Algoa College, Algoa Military Base, Danier Piennar in Port Elizabeth, St Colmcille and Humansdorp Secondary Schools in Uitenhage.

Attendance at the Spring Camps was based on the March and June learner results. Learners were grouped in terms of subject streams and level of performance to receive the assistance that they require. The Province used the Algoa Military Base to provide support to 300 underperforming learners combined with the progressed learners. The main aim of this camp was to consolidate learning of subject content towards improved levels of performance in the final National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations.

The Chief Education Specialist, Mr Leonard, who is responsible for the coordination of camps in Port Elizabeth said that the camps were effectively run and learner attendance was always above 90%. "This indicates that these learners are committed to their studies. We only hope that these learners will leave the camps with an in-depth knowledge to write the NSC examination with more confidence," said Mr Leonard.

In his address, the Director-General commended the Eastern Cape education officials for having fostered collaboration with Government organisations such as Alban Correctional Facility, Algoa College and Algoa Military Base in order to assist learners in their preparation for the 2017 NSC Examinations during the school holiday period.

Mr Mweli told learners in Port Elizabeth that children are the most valuable assets and urged them to use education to take South Africa forward: "I urge you to concentrate on your studies and work hard to achieve excellent results. Mr Mweli requested learners to put more effort into their studies as they are future pilots, engineers, medical doctors and charted accountants, adding that, "The time you spend studying will reflect in your performance, therefore invest more time in your school work to realise academic success."

Asakhanya Bangela from St. Thomas Senior Secondary School said: "Basically I came to this camp to acquire more knowledge in Accounting because this subject is challenging. I am delighted that through this camp, I interacted with other learners who understand the subject better." This is the best place to prepare for the exams. At home is not easy to study because there are so many unexpected disruptions. Whereas Asakhe Dywati, indicated: "The camp will play a crucial role in my studies as it enabled me to master the content in Mathematics and Accounting. Being in this camp is very inspiring because I had an opportunity to socialise with learners from other schools in the study groups.

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." Malcom X









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