Winners of the 2015/16 National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) Best School and District Awards
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The Adjudication and selection criteria to determine the Best School:

- Success in adherence to general guidelines of the NSNP/meet or exceed NSNP implementation standards/
  commitment to excellence in creating nutritious, appealing meals;
- Innovation in programme implementation;
- Stakeholders participation;
- Establishment of food gardens;
- Hygiene/clean preparation and storage facilities;
- The school has established the NSNP Committee that keeps orderly records and coordinates activities of the
  programme;
- Promote Nutrition Education in school communities to improve and are committed to serving learners.

The Adjudication and selection criteria to determine the Best District:

- Monitoring and support plan for school visits;
- Maintain proper management of records & databases;
- Provide quality reports at all levels (circuit, district and province);
- Demonstrate a positive attitude and a clear understanding of the Programme;
- Workshops conducted for programme implementation;
- Partnership initiative/collaboration Stakeholder participation;
- Plan to address challenges non-feeding in the programme;
- Display of leadership qualities to ensure that NSNP in a district is promoted and successfully implemented;
- NSNP Service Standards to promote “Batho Pele” Principles (show evidence).

Prizes:

CATEGORY 1: Best School Awards

BEST SCHOOL: The Tiger Brands Foundation will donate a fully equipped kitchen or dinning hall to the value of R450
000 plus a 3-year school breakfast feeding programme.

Runners up:

Nominated schools by provinces will be awarded with cooking equipment plus a
Certificate of recognition and trophies for the first three positions supplied by the Department of Basic Education.

CATEGORY 2: Best District Awards

BEST DISTRICT: The Tiger Brands Foundation will sponsor office equipment for NSNP officials to the value of
R50 000 for the winning district.
Motheo District has eight Monitors, two Chief Administrative clerks and a Coordinator; one for learner transport and other for NSNP. The District has 234 schools partaking in the NSNP. Each monitor is allocated a number of schools for management and Administrative purposes. The district has a formal monitoring timetable to ensure that all schools are monitored at least once in a quarter during the financial year. The District has a designated computerized tracker to monitor NSNP income expenditure in each school partaking in the NSNP. The monthly NSNP reports which have expenditure reports from schools help monitors to populate the Income Expenditure Computer Tracker.

The District has provided the training on Financial Management for schools. Participants in the workshops included Principals, Clerks, School NSNP Committee members and Local Woman Cooperatives. Schools are also trained on the Signed Agreement with the Department which deals with, purchase order by schools, delivery notes and invoice writing, induction of newly re-ranked schools, EduPlant and Permaculture.

The District has come up with Learner Support Awards during National Nutrition Week Celebration in order to encourage and promote compliance to NSNP related policies by schools. The idea was first implemented in 2014. Categories awarded included NSNP Best School, Best School NSNP Committee and Best Learner Support Monitor. Molelengoana Cargo Agency donated trophies and framed certificates to winning schools and individuals. Motheo District has partnered with Trees of Africa for promotion of Sustainable Food Production Initiatives, Molelegoana Cargo Agency, Top of the Pile and Batloung Trust who provided training for schools on Gas Safety annually.

The Tiger Brands Foundation will sponsor office equipment for NSNP officials to the value of R50 000.
Winner

Best School: Seithati Intermediate School, Free State Motheo District
Principal: Mr RK Kwababa

The school won a fully equipped kitchen/dining hall plus eating utensils (plates, cups & spoons) worth R450 000.00 donated by Tiger Brands Foundation.

“Seithati Intermediate School should be considered for the Best School Awards because the school implement the programme as per the minimum guidelines. The school has learners who face enormous obstacles to schooling. These learners come from households facing food insecurity on daily basis. (Hunger looms large among these learners). They live in a community with highest levels of poverty and unemployment and rely on meagre sources of income derived from pensions, social grants or cheap labour”.

“Many families are unable to put enough food on the table to keep hunger and illness at bay. Teachers have to be ready for occasions when children collapse in the classroom from hunger on arrival at school. In trying to address the learner’s needs the school has introduced a programme of requesting clothes from community members. The project benefits needy learners. The school also work with local church which conducts Life Orientation camps for learners over the weekend and during the school holidays”.

“Our girls are also provided with sanitary towels by the church. The Department of Public Works (EPWP) has provided the school with community members to assist with the school garden. The produce from the garden benefit both the needy learners and community members. Our school keeps a feeding register for all classes which is used to improve on the meals preparation. In order to improve the school results the school conduct extra classes on Saturdays and our learners are provided with meals”.
“Panorama Primary School is a quintile 4 school and receives a subsidy from the Western Cape Department of Education. The learner attending the school come from a very poor community and most parents are pensioners and jobless. The school feeding programme consists of three devoted ladies who prepare meals (breakfast and lunch) for 583 learners from Monday of Friday”.

“The programme is doing extremely fantastic since it was upgraded by Transnet Port Terminals which made a huge difference. Transnet built a fully equipped kitchen for the school in May 2011 and the school also work with the Department of Agriculture to maintain the food garden”.

“The learners are more energetic and enjoy their meals every day. The wonderful warm atmosphere in the programme also motivates learners to come to school and have an impact on their absenteeism. It’s wonderful to know that the school can provide a decent meal for the learners. The feeding programme is actually like a second home for the sisterly love. The programme has also improved the academic performance of learners. It’s wonderful to know that most of the learners succeed in the future and knowing their circumstances and where they come from”.

The school was awarded with cooking equipment plus a Certificate of recognition and trophy.
“At Gijamphezeni we pride ourselves with our garden which is well maintained throughout the year by committed parents. With the produce from the garden the school is able give vegetable to local crèches, community and other schools. Learners from the school are also benefitting from the produce. Needy families get vegetable for free every Friday. Food gardens provide opportunities for learners, educators and parents to acquire minimum Agricultural skills. The programme also promotes good working relationship amongst educators and parents. Lottery has donated a fully equipped kitchen for the school. Dry food is stored in bins and fresh food in kept in the fridge. Feeding is done in classes under educator's supervision. Learners are fed before 10h00".
Finalists

M.T Ayliff Primary School, Eastern Cape
Mount Frere Circuit
Principal: Ms PP Nonkonyana

“Our learners are healthier and more active than before as a result of the feeding programme at the school. The NSNP has decreased absenteeism of learners as they always look forward to have a well-balanced meal each day. The funds for the programme are transferred into the school account. Due to the savings made because there is no middleman, the school after consultation with the district office was able to build a kitchen in order to prepare the meals in a conductive / hygienic environment. The school adhere to all minimum conditions set by the Department such as the feeding of learners by 10h00”.

“As a school we work with various stakeholders such as the School Governing, Educators, and Disaster Management fire rescue services, Department of health and Agriculture. As a good practise the meal servers have medical reports confirming that they are healthy. We always submit the expenditure and other reports to the district before due date. The school is a good model in the district with the implementation of the programme”.

[Image of school and feeding programme]
Tlhophane Primary School strives to be the best school in South Africa as a whole. It adheres to the school policies which are in line with the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996. Our school has an NSNP policy that strives for the creation and maintenance of nutritious and healthy meal for all the learners in order for them to achieve optimal and successful learning. Hence, our school emphasizes holistic approach in developing learners in totality in terms of their spirit, physical, mental, and social capabilities.

“Our school has a good relationship with non-profit organisations like Rutanang Aids Project. This organisation has made it possible for the school to establish a food garden that supplements NSNP. Hence, our vegetable garden consists of vegetables like beetroot, spinach, onions, cabbages, carrots and some herbs. Our children are then fed well-balanced meals daily. We maintain a food pyramid meal that keeps our learners healthy. This has also improved learners attendance"
“Izanokhanyo Primary School is situated in Simunye area in the West Rand. Simunye area is mostly populated by unemployed retrenched mine workers. Learners do not pay school fees and they depend solely on financial assistance from the Department and Government (Grant). The school also work with other stakeholders for donations. In the morning many children come on empty stomach, and even after school you see scores of them visiting the after care centres in our area before going to their homes. Through fund raising the school managed to build a kitchen. Our kitchen even though it does not have equipment is kept clean”.

“The Volunteer Food Handlers always practice personal hygiene when dealing with food. All food items are well labelled and packed accordingly. Washing basins are made available for learners to wash hands before they eat. It becomes sad to hear stories that on Sunday there was no food at home or they had to depend on their neighbours to feed their stomachs. The school programme has made a difference in our school and has curbed absenteeism”.
THANK YOU FOR HEEDING THE PRESIDENT’S CALL TO MAKE EDUCATION A SOCIETAL ISSUE