



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THUTO



NEWSLETTER

Minister Motshekga to address learners during the DBE's 60 Year Commemoration of the 1956 Women's March

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) will commemorate the 60 year anniversary of the 1956 Women's March at Lemotso Primary School in Welkom, Free State Province, on 27 August 2016. The event aims to create a platform for 500 girl learners, who are currently involved in leadership roles within school structures such as Representative Councils of Learners (RCLs), jamboree organising committees, debate societies and cultural clubs, to engage with prominent leaders to share their experiences and highlight barriers that hinder their personal development.

During the proceedings, presentations will also be made by the Honourable Speaker of the Free State Provincial Legislature, Ms Motlagomang Grazy Qabathe; and the Chairperson of the Basic Education Portfolio Committee, Ms Nomalungelo Gina, MP. These leaders will guide and advise learners on the various aspects of life, focussing on the following topics: *the 1956 Women's March: an historical perspective; how communities could support and protect vulnerable children; and the role of the education system in shaping the future of girl learners to contribute effectively towards the socio-economic growth of the country.*

Minister Motshekga will be delivering the keynote address on *the role of the education system in shaping the future of girl learners to ensure a positive contribution towards socio-economic growth.* South Africa has been experiencing an alarming increase in discrimination and violence against women and girls as a result of various societal ills and occurrences such as drug and alcohol abuse, high rates of poverty and unemployment, an increased number of child-headed households and changing family lifestyles. These circumstances also affect their behaviour, attitudes and morale which lead to dropping out from school at an early age. As we commemorate the 60 year anniversary of National Women's Day, it is important for old and new generations to share and exchange information, through dialogue, on the milestones achieved, the plight and atrocities of the past and the path that must be walked in the future, to ensure that all women and girls' voices are heard.



Minister Motshekga and Deputy Minister Surty meet with District Directors



Minister Angie Motshekga and Deputy Minister Enver Surty met with District Directors at the DBE in Pretoria on 25 and 26 August 2016. The focus of the two-day session was to monitor the basic education sector's progress towards improved learner performance as the end of the 2016 Academic Year nears. The theme for the meeting was: *Journeying Together Towards Quality Inclusive Education For All*. These quarterly discussions with District Directors are facilitated by the Planning and Delivery Oversight Branch under the leadership of Mrs Palesa Tyobeka and are attended by all District Directors from across the country, as well as senior managers from the nine Provincial Education Departments.

The Director-General of Basic Education, Mr Mathanzima Mweli, gave an overview of progress made with the implementation of the *National Development Plan 2030* (NDP); and guest presenters included Mr Godwin Khosa, CEO of the National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT); and representatives from the Education Management Information System (EMIS) Directorate who presented progress on the Data Driven Districts Project with initial lessons learnt and an accompanying case study successfully addressed through the application of toolsets that were implemented.

Deputy Directors-General from the DBE attended the meeting to provide Branch updates on key policies and programmes whilst senior provincial managers presented on their readiness to deliver improved results at the end of 2016.

Mathematics experts join forces to improve the teaching of word problems in the Foundation and Intermediate Phases

The Deputy Director-General (DDG) for Curriculum Policy, Support and Monitoring, Dr Mamiki Maboya, chaired a seminar where a report was presented by JET Education Services on Phase 2 of the *DBE-Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mathematics Primary Education Improvement Project* (MPEIP), at the DBE in Pretoria on 19 August 2016. The MPEIP is a research project, which was recently piloted in the North West and Eastern Cape Provinces involving 192 schools from 8 districts. The project focused on testing the In-school Monitoring and Support Model to improve teacher competency in primary school Mathematics and to enhance curriculum coverage.

The seminar was a culmination of the partnership between the DBE and JICA whose primary aim is to improve the quality of Mathematics teaching and learning from Grade 1 to Grade 4. This partnership seeks to improve the core role of curriculum managers in schools to provide monitoring and support to teachers, whilst also motivating teachers to work collaboratively in order to strengthen the teaching and learning of word problems/sums in the Foundation and Intermediate Phases.

In his presentation, Mathematics Chief Education Specialist, Dr David Sekao, said that although the DBE has been providing policy, curriculum and Learning and Teaching Support Material (LTSM) to improve learner performance in Mathematics, lack of an effective model to monitor and support Mathematics curriculum coverage and quality of teaching and learning were seen as stumbling blocks for teachers to apply better strategies in teaching word problem solving in the Foundation and Intermediate Phases. "Teachers need more support to deal with word problem solving," said Dr Sekao. "Word problem solving practice was not always helping learners improve their number sense because many of them were not given a chance to think and work using their own strategies," he added.

Mathematics Education Policy Advisor, Ms Junko "Bonolo" Funaki, who also presented a qualitative report on an In-School Monitoring and Support Model that encouraged teachers to revisit the CAPS document and activate the LTSM they had in their schools, stated that learners not only learn Mathematics while solving problems, but also develop problem-solving skills and strategies while doing Mathematics. "If teachers receive adequate monitoring and support by school management and peer review; they will be enabled to teach word problems effectively," said Ms Funaki.

In conclusion, Dr Maboya said that the Foundation Phase teachers should be trained to improve mathematic teaching. The DDG emphasised that thorough monitoring and support needs to be encouraged for teachers to teach word problem solving, regularly and effectively.



Interprovincial meeting for Educational Library and Information Services

The quarterly interprovincial meeting for Education Library and Information Services took place at the DBE in Pretoria on 16 August 2016. The purpose of the meeting is to co-ordinate school library developments and activities across the country; and to take the *Read to Lead Campaign* forward.

The meeting was attended by Provincial Education officials who are responsible for the implementation of library and information services in education, which also include school libraries and reading promotion. They were joined by officials from the DBE, representatives from Bridgestone and Mr Hasunuma from the South African Primary Education Support Initiative (SAPESi), an NGO which imports mobile library vehicles from Japan to donate to education library services in South Africa.

Each of the provinces presented an overview on activities and progress made with regard to school libraries and reading promotion. Provinces are doing wonderful work with the available resources that they have.

Click on the link below for the full article:

[Interprovincial meeting for Educational Library and Information Services](#)



Funza Lushaka continues to recruit vibrant young teachers

The Funza Lushaka bursary programme aims to fund 25% of students enrolled at public Higher Education Institutions for recognised initial teacher education programmes, namely Bachelors in Education (BEd) or a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). The Funza Lushaka bursary programme is not a financial aid programme for students but a merit bursary programme. The DBE and the basic education sector utilises the programme to address critical teacher shortages in specified subject areas and school phases.

The Funza Lushaka bursary programme was established in 2007 as part of the many efforts to address teacher supply and demand challenges in the basic education sector. Since 2007 more than 91,267 Funza Lushaka bursary awards have been made. During the 2015/16 financial year 13,980 bursaries were awarded. An analysis of these awarded bursaries show that 2,576 students were in their first year while 4,616 students were in their fourth year of study. The lower number of first year bursary holders are attributed to the fact that the Funza Lushaka bursary has to maintain a larger number of existing students while fewer bursaries are available for new applicants. The National Treasury has allocated R1,043,611.00 for the 2016/17 financial year. This amount will be sufficient to fund approximately 14,000 students during the 2016 academic year. The Funza Lushaka bursary programme processed 51,220 applications by 16 January 2016 for the available 4,000 bursaries for new applicants for the 2016 academic year.

The district and community-based teacher recruitment campaign of the Department has focused, amongst others, on attracting prospective Mathematics, Science and Technology teachers. Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) have selected prospective candidates and submitted approved lists to the DBE. The focus is on both Grade 12 learners and out-of-school youth. PEDs are working closely with the universities to assist learners to apply and ensure that Funza Lushaka phase and subject priority bursaries, as well as university admission requirements, are met. District and community based teacher recruitment campaigns target schools in districts where there are teacher shortages on the condition that students recruited from these schools will go back to teach in those schools.

Click on the below link to view the full article:

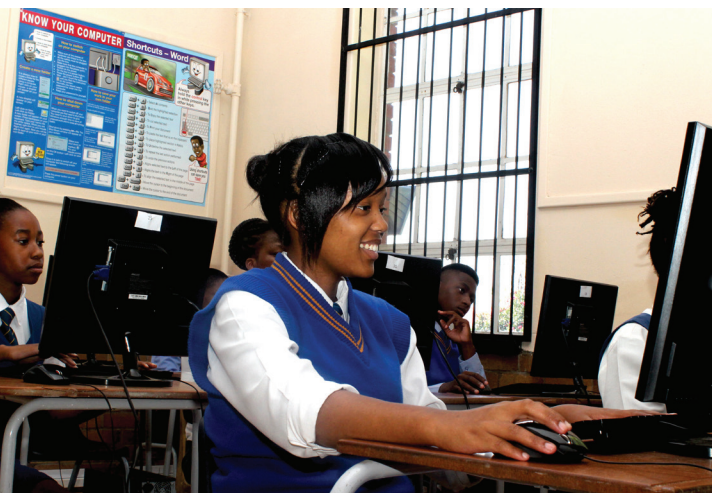
[Funza Lushaka continues to recruit vibrant young teachers](#)



Partnerships in Basic Education: ICT Learner and Teacher Resources

The provision and utilisation of ICT will assist the entire teaching and learning experience of learners and teachers by enabling access to educational resources to successfully meet the requirements of the curriculum, as well as the objectives outlined in the *National Development Plan* (NDP).

In order to support the DBE in meeting the demands of the 21st century learner in the classroom, as well as the deliverables outlined in the NDP and the goals highlighted through the Operation Phakisa ICT in Education consultation process, the Vodacom Foundation has partnered with the Department to provide a free and effective online learning experience, whilst also making quality content easily accessible to all by means of the Vodacom Digital Classroom and the Vodacom e-School.



Vodacom *Digital Classroom*

The Vodacom Digital Classroom is a portal focusing on teacher professional development and resources. It provides information on Teacher Centres and Discussion Forums for teachers and trainers. It also provides the latest news on education via the News Feed and access to various education resources via links. The Digital Classroom aims to support Teacher Professional Development at Teacher Centres by providing access to teaching resources and collaborative tools. Access to the portal resources and services is zero-rated by Vodacom. Click on the below link for additional information:

<http://digitalclassroom.co.za/digitalclassroom/voda-digital-classroom>

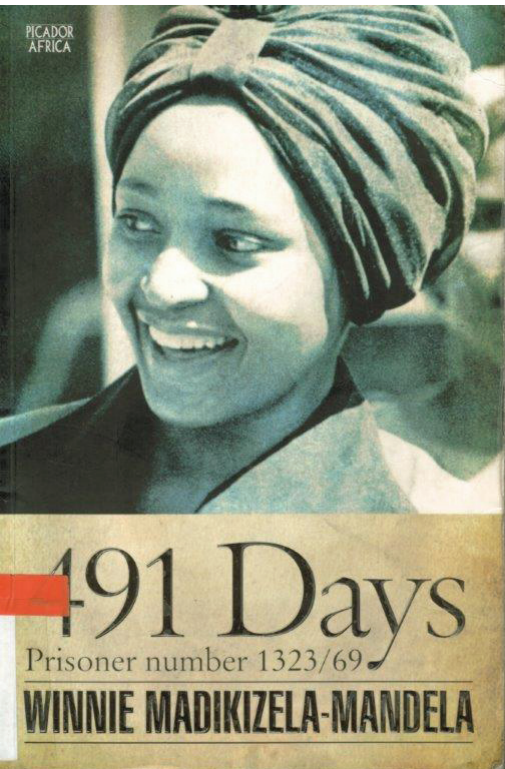
Vodacom e-School

The Vodacom e-School is a portal focusing on providing free online lessons to supplement and reinforce classroom learning. It provides access to audio-visual and multimedia lessons reinforced through interactive e-assessments (quizzes). Learners are able to monitor their own progress through the self-directed learning platform. Click on the below link for additional information:

<http://www.vodacom.co.za/vodacom/services/vodacom-e-school>

Information Resource Centre (IRC) Review

The IRC is commemorating Women's Month during the month of August by featuring the following books:



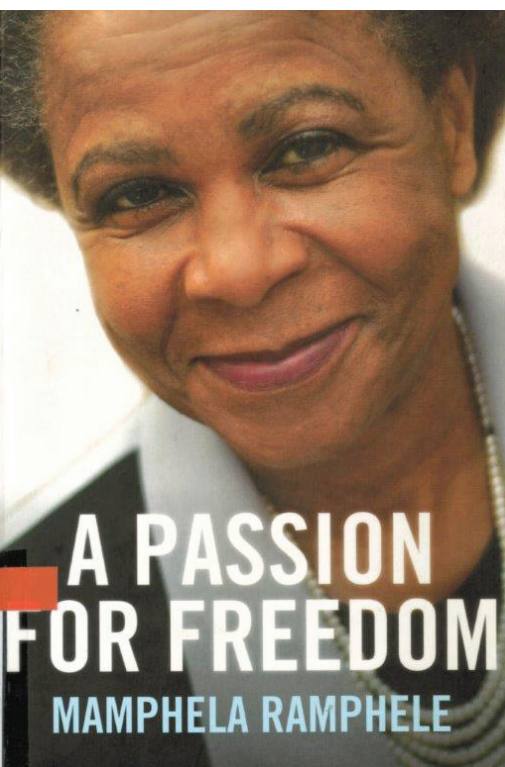
491 Days: Prisoner Number 1323/69

Author: Madikizela-Mandela, Winnie

Dewey number: 920 MAN

Reviewed by: Kgoale Nthabeleng

491 Days: Prisoner Number 1323/69, shares with the world Winnie Mandela's moving and compelling journal, as well as some of the letters written between affected parties at the time, including Winnie and Nelson Mandela, who by then had been in prison for nearly seven years. Readers gain insight into the brutality she experienced, her depths of despair, as well as her resilience and defiance under extreme pressure. This young wife and mother emerged after 491 days in detention unbowed and determined to continue the struggle for freedom.



A passion for freedom

Author: Ramphele, Mamphela

Dewey number: 920 RAM

Reviewed by: Kgoale Nthabeleng

This is a richly anecdotal story of an extraordinary life when baby Mamphela was born to teacher parents in the rural village of Kranspoort. Few would have predicted that she would become not only a medical doctor, but an international leader and the founder of not one, but two new political movements. As a young woman, Mamphela was instrumental in creating the ideology of *Black Consciousness* with her partner, Steve Biko. As an accomplished and well-off business woman who had reached the pinnacle of success, she felt compelled to start a political party, Agang SA, to provide South African voters with an alternative option. In this very readable autobiography, Ramphele vividly describes her rural childhood, her extended family, her first loves and losses after the death of her firstborn. She also shares her vision for a future South Africa of which we can all be proud of.

Public servants advised to improve service delivery

DPSA calls for nominations

The 4th National Batho Pele Excellence Awards 2016

Closing date: 31 August 2016



#4thnbpea16



the dpsa

Department:
Public Service and Administration
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Batho Pele

Putting People First



We Belong



We Care



We Serve

Public Service and Administration Minister, Advocate Ngoako Ramatlhodi, says innovation should be at the centre of service delivery for Government to positively impact on the lives of all South Africans. He said innovation should be allowed to thrive within the public sector in order to deliver services better, faster and more efficiently. The Minister addressed delegates during the 10th Public Sector Innovation Conference in Cape Town from 23 to 24 August 2016. The theme of the conference, Aligning Innovation and the Service Delivery Value Chain for Sustainable Public Service Efficiency, highlighted the importance of bringing innovation into public service delivery. The conference, which is hosted annually by the Centre of Public Service Innovation, was first held in 2007 and is used as a platform to inculcate and institutionalise innovation in the public sector to improve service delivery.

Minister Ramatlhodi said there is a need for all public servants to intensify their efforts to be innovatively responsive to the needs of all South Africans. He said to achieve this, all government institutions need to reinforce and collaborate widely and across all sectors of the economy. Sustainable development requires multiple, targeted and effectively coordinated interventions. A silo approach will not only lead to the inefficient utilisation of scarce resources, but the development impact will also be compromised. He said as insights into processes improve and technology develops, new opportunities arise to shorten or improve service delivery value chains. Some services may even become obsolete as new service channels are made possible. Minister Ramatlhodi said for innovation to be successful, it should be contextually relevant and be able to address the root causes of service delivery failures.

Casual Day 2016 - Up Your Game for Persons with Disabilities



The Casual Day theme for 2016 is: *Up Your Game for Persons with Disabilities*.

Casual Day is South Africa's foremost fundraising campaign for persons with disabilities and is the flagship project of the National Council for Persons with Physical Disabilities in SA (NCPDPSA). Casual Day has become a firm favourite on the calendar of many of South Africa's public and private sector

organisations, with some sponsoring stickers for their entire staff complement as a corporate social investment initiative.

Approximately 4 500 companies, 100 schools and 400 organisations rendering services to persons with disabilities are participating. It is an excellent opportunity for corporate team building, whilst also making a contribution to one of the country's most vulnerable sectors of society; persons with disabilities.

Be sure to order your Casual Day sticker for R10 from your Departmental representative. Also visit the Casual Day website at <http://www.casualday.co.za> for more information and to look at the Casual Day merchandise on sale.

Provincial Round-up

Western Cape



Western Cape
Government
Education

BETTER TOGETHER.

In the wake of the recent discovery that a convicted paedophile had been employed as an educator at one of the schools in the Western Cape Province, the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) is taking further steps to strengthen its vetting systems. Any person seeking employment within the WCED is now required to have fingerprints taken.

An external service provider that specialises in background checks will be used to access police and court records to check the Sexual Offenders Registers of the Departments of Justice and Social Development, the Government's employee records system, as well as PERSAL, to establish whether a potential employee who previously worked for Government was ever convicted of an offence, including sexual offences. The WCED will also check whether the applicant teacher is registered with the South African Council of Educators (SACE). The WCED views any allegation of sexual abuse in an extremely serious light and gives top priority to investigating these cases.

Upcoming Events

- 22 August 2016: 2016 Amended Senior Certificate Examination results will be made available to candidates who wrote at schools/registered examination centres located in remote areas
- 25 – 26 August 2016: Minister meets with District Directors in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 26 August 2016: ASIDI hand-over of Lower Ngcolokeni Primary School, Qumbu, in the Eastern Cape Province
- 27 August 2016: The DBE will commemorate the 60 year anniversary of the 1956 Women's March at Lemotso Primary School in Welkom, Free State Province
- 31 August 2016: The iNkosi Albert Luthuli Competition Eastern Cape Provincial Rounds
- 01 – 22 September 2016: The Provincial Rounds of the Sixth National School Moot Court Competition
- 02 September 2016: ASIDI hand-over of Mhala Primary School, Dutywa, in the Eastern Cape Province
- 03 September 2016: The iNkosi Albert Luthuli Competition Northern Cape Provincial Rounds
- 03 September 2016: The iNkosi Albert Luthuli Competition Western Cape Provincial Rounds
- 08 September 2016: International Literacy Day
- 09 September 2016: ASIDI hand-over of Zamilizwe Primary School, Qumbu, in the Eastern Cape Province
- 09 September 2016: The iNkosi Albert Luthuli Competition Free State Provincial Rounds
- 10 September 2016: The iNkosi Albert Luthuli Competition North West Provincial Rounds
- 21 September 2016: A meeting on Reading Matters will be taking place at the DBE in Pretoria
- 23 September 2016: ASIDI hand-over of Ndakana Primary School, Qumbu, in the Eastern Cape Province
- 24 September 2016: Heritage Day
- October 2016: Teacher Appreciation Month
- 01 – 02 October 2016: iNkosi Albert Luthuli Oral History Programme and Gala Dinner
- 03 – 04 October 2016: The Transnet Rural and Farm Schools National Tournament will be taking place at Germiston Stadium, in the Gauteng Province
- 03 – 07 October 2016: Heritage Education Schools Outreach Programme, North West Province
- 04 – 08 October 2016: The Sanlam Kay Motsepe Schools Cup National Championship will be taking place in Johannesburg in the Gauteng Province
- 05 – 08 October 2016: Sixth National School Moot Court Competition
- 05 October 2016: World Teachers' Day
- 10 – 16 December 2016: The South African Schools National Championships (Summer Games) will be taking place at Wits University in Johannesburg