



THUTO

PRODUCED BY:
THE DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION



NEWSLETTER

Over R45 million pledged to advance sanitation facilities in South African schools



Government and the business sector raised more than R45 million during the launch of the Sanitation Appropriate for Education (SAFE) Initiative aimed at restoring the dignity of education in public schools. The launch took place at the Sheraton Hotel in Pretoria on 14 August 2018.

Basic Education Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga, said that there are currently 3,898 schools that require appropriate sanitation interventions. “I would like to thank corporates and individuals who have agreed to partner with the Department of Basic Education (DBE) to eradicate pit latrines in our schools and restore the dignity of our children. The support has been truly incredible,” said Minister Motshekga.

President Cyril Ramaphosa, joined by Minister Motshekga, and Basic Education Deputy Minister, Mr Enver Surty, utilised the initiative to mobilise local and international business leaders to pledge their support for the Initiative. The partnership was spear-headed by business representatives from the National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT), the Nelson Mandela Foundation; AVBOB and UNICEF.

During his presentation, *Restoring Dignity to our children through the SAFE Initiative*, Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, outlined the outcome of the Sanitation Audit Report, which was compiled by the DBE with the assistance of the Provincial Education Departments. According to the Audit Report, more than 10,661 schools experience sanitation challenges in the country.

During the launch, President Ramaphosa said that school sanitation challenges need to be addressed urgently, particularly in the approximately 4,000 schools that only have pit latrines or other inappropriate sanitation facilities. “Schools should be places where children can be safe, supported, nurtured and empowered,” added the President.

“It was in such a school, Mhlodumela Primary School in Limpopo, where five-year old Michael Komape drowned in a pit toilet in 2014, whilst Lumka Mkethwa lost her life at Luna Junior Primary School in the Eastern Cape, during March this year. The utterly tragic and devastating deaths of children so young and so innocent remind us of the human consequences of service delivery delayed,” said President Ramaphosa.

“With today’s launch, we are calling on all South Africans, corporates, NGOs and international partners to be part of this ambitious, but necessary effort to give effect to the fundamental human rights of our learners. Let us build a social compact that recognises our shared responsibility to build a new society founded on the principles of justice, respect, dignity and equality,” concluded the President.



Minister Motshekga visits the Free State Province to monitor and support the Second Chance Matric Support Programme



Continuing with the commemoration of the centenaries of Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu, Basic Education Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga, accompanied by MEC for Education in the Free State, Mr Tate Makgoe, took the Second Chance Matric Support Programme (SCMSP) roadshow to Botshabelo and Welkom from 11 to 12 August 2018.

The two events were well attended by the community from the various townships around Motheo and Lejweleputswa district municipalities. In her address, Minister Motshekga was very candid about her understanding of how social ills might be influencing the youth's educational aspirations, but she encouraged them not to let these issues deter them from obtaining a matric certificate.

MEC Makgoe shared a story of how a certain young man, who could not get into his chosen field of study due to his low achievement rating, did not give up, but chose to rewrite his matric in order to improve his marks. That young man is currently enrolled in the field of Electrical Engineering at the University of Pretoria. Addressing the learners in Botshabelo, Minister Motshekga said, "As learners you must make use of the second chance given to you by the DBE, as it is a gateway to better your lives and secure a bright future."

The Minister and the MEC also used the opportunity to visit Selokisa Matric Finishing School, which is one of the few SCMSP centres in the country, to monitor and support the programme. The staff of the school was also afforded an opportunity to outline the progress and challenges faced by the school in terms of readiness of the 2018 NSC examinations.

The roadshows, which not only offer information about the Second Chance Programme, include the *Read to Lead Campaign* and the *Funza Lushaka Bursary Scheme*, which will continue across the country with the next roadshow scheduled for 25 August 2018 in the North West Province.



Vision for education and training discussed during Roundtable on University Learner Enrichment Programmes



“We envisage schools that provide all learners with excellent education, especially in Literacy, Mathematics and Science,” Director-General for Basic Education, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, quoted from the *National Development Plan (NDP), Vision 2030*, which was the main point of departure for the Roundtable Discussion on University Learner Enrichment Programmes. The Roundtable Discussion was hosted at the DBE in Pretoria on 14 August 2018, under the theme: “Creating an opportunity for universities to share with the Basic Education Sector information on Learner Enrichment Programmes”.

Key objectives of the Roundtable Discussion were the strengthening of existing partnerships, as well as sharing best practice, expertise and resources to enrich learning and teaching. Discussions centred on the key features of the education and training system: Early Childhood Development (ECD); schooling; Further Education and Training and skills development; and Higher Education.

Mr Mveli announced the implementation of the Department’s “Skills Revolution” to bring about the desired goals for the education sector with the full involvement of, and co-operation with universities. The spin-offs of the model include mediating the high rate of school drop-outs; increasing the number of learners entering the vocational and occupational pathways; providing inclusive education; and creating opportunities for young people with disabilities. The Department needs to fully collaborate with universities in addressing threats to the successful implementation of the model.

Deputy Minister, Mr Enver Surty, in paying tribute to the Women’s Month celebrations, stressed the importance of empowering the girl learner in Science and Technology as South Africa advances towards the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The main areas of focus, according to Deputy Minister Surty are: EDC, in laying the foundations for literacy and numeracy in the Foundation Phase through play; the importance of progressed learning; and the dropout and retention rate in the FET Band. “The Fourth Industrial Revolution, creative problem-solving and the way we learn and teach at university level should change and infuse curriculum with technology; we need academics and empirical knowledge to be part of the process,” Mr Surty concluded.

Relationships between schools and universities can be beneficial for both groups, but only when they are well co-ordinated and there is respect for contributions and the needs of everyone involved. Through school-university collaborations, learners will be exposed to new and exciting resources beyond the reach of most public schools. The relationship between schools and partner universities should therefore match interest with opportunity. Universities should therefore also develop school programmes and projects.



2018 DBE Spelling Bee provincial competitions underway



Earlier this year, a call was made for all schools to encourage learners to participate in the 2018 National Spelling Bee Championships. The provincial rounds of the DBE Spelling Bee Competitions commenced at the Education Leadership Institute in the Eastern Cape Province on 16 August 2018, and will conclude at the Mafikeng Primary School in the North West Province on 19 September 2018. Provincial winners will compete at the National Championships that will be taking place at the ZK Matthews Auditorium, Unisa, Pretoria in the Gauteng Province on 06 October 2018.

The event is co-ordinated in partnership with SABC Education, Unisa (Department of English Studies), the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC), the National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT) and the AVBOB Foundation.

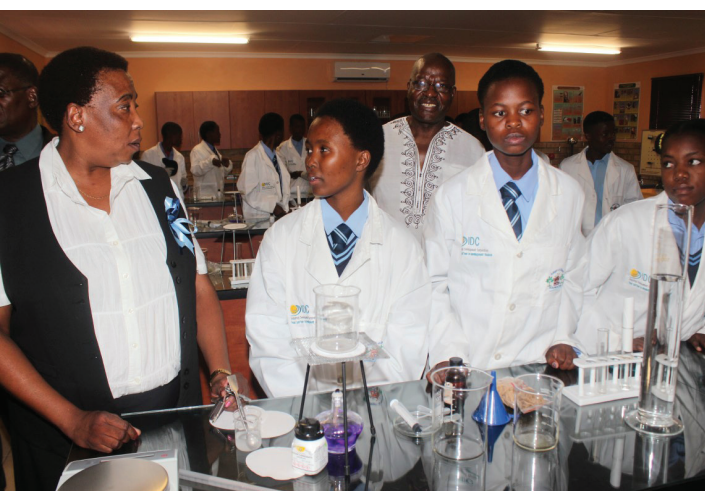
All primary schools, including independent schools, from Grades 4 to 6, also known as the Intermediate Phase, participate in the annual Championships. Home Education students and associations were also encouraged to participate.

The DBE Spelling Bee commenced during 2013 in partnership with independent Spelling Bee implementers. The Spelling Bee is part of the *Read to Lead Campaign* aimed at encouraging learners to read and write with understanding. It is conducted in English, which is the language of learning and teaching of 86% of all learners in the country. The aim of the Spelling Bee and Reading Clubs programmes are to improve academic performance through fun activities.

Click on the below link for additional information on the 2018 National Spelling Bee Championships:

<https://www.education.gov.za/Programmes/SpellingBee.aspx>.

Teacher Appreciation and Support Programme invites presentations inspired by Madiba's values



The Teacher Appreciation and Support Programme (TASP) recognises the good work done by committed teachers during often challenging circumstances across the country. World Teachers' Day and the National Teaching Awards (NTAs) are crucial milestones in the TASP programme as teachers are seen as the heartbeat of the nation.

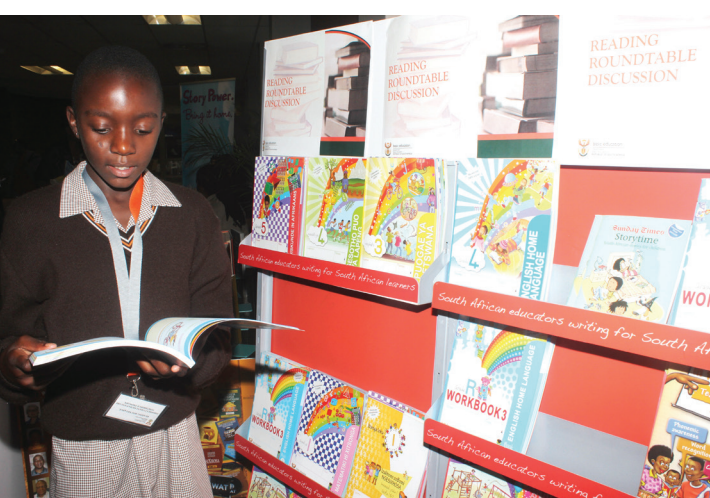
As 2018 marks the celebration of the centenary of the birth of Former President Nelson Mandela, Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) are invited, as part of TASP to forward presentations which will be embedded in Mandela's ideas. These presentations will follow a set of guidelines adapted from the criteria of the Varkey Foundation. The theme for this year's celebration is: "Teachers and teaching: the commemoration of the Nelson Mandela Centenary during the Fourth Industrial Revolution".

These guidelines speak to classroom practice, teacher achievements in and outside the classroom, helping learners to become global citizens, and to also be role models. These are attributes that Mandela talked to when he talked about citizens "which all humanity will be proud of".

All districts and provinces have received the guidelines and are requested to encourage teachers to prepare and submit their presentations on or before 31 August 2018. The entrant must be a serving teacher or practitioner in a public school or Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centre registered with the DBE or the Department of Social Development. The top nine presentations will be presented at a World Teachers' Day Seminar on 05 October 2018.

Teachers should email their presentations to Mrs Masivuye Sangoni and copy Mrs Patricia Mulaudzi at: sangoni.m@dbe.gov.za and mulaudzi.p@dbe.gov.za.

Delivery of Grades R to 9 workbooks for the 2019 academic year



The DBE is currently printing and distributing workbooks to all public schools across the country for the 2019 academic year.

During August 2016, the DBE informed the sector that, due to budgetary constraints for the 2018 academic year, Grades 1 to 3 Life Skills workbooks will not be printed and delivered. Following additional budget for the 2019 academic year, the DBE will be in a position to print and deliver Grades 1 to 3 Life Skills workbooks for quintile 1 to 5 schools. Grade R workbooks and Grades 1 to 9 volume 1 workbooks will be printed and distributed from 17 July to 28 September 2018. Grades 1 to 9 volume 2 workbooks will be printed and distributed from 09 October to 12 December 2018.

Whilst it is the DBE's commitment to ensure that the distribution of the 2019 workbooks is executed according to the approved learner statistics received from the various provinces, it is also the responsibility of the Provincial and District Offices to ensure that the correct statistics on learner numbers for all schools are submitted to the Department to avoid a situation where learners are without learning materials at the start of the 2019 school year.

The school principal or a delegated school official is expected to open and check the workbook consignment immediately upon delivery and indicate the need for additional workbooks if required. All incorrect language deliveries must be stated on the proof of delivery note and the stock must be returned with the delivery vehicle on the same day. District Directors, Subject Advisors, principals and teachers are requested to regularly monitor the utilisation of workbooks and any school found not utilising workbooks, will be required to provide a written report, and will be held accountable for fruitless expenditure. Learners are to be afforded an opportunity to take workbooks home to complete tasks with the assistance of their parents or guardians.

All requests for additional workbooks as a result of increased learner numbers must be reported on or before 31 January 2019. Should there be a need for additional workbooks, the principal or delegated school official should report the situation for remediation to:

- Call Centre Number: 086 100 4357
- Email: dbe@golesedi.com
- SMS: 39864

Provincial Round-up



The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education hosted a two day Mathematics Lesson Study Workshop for Subject Advisors from the General Education and Training Band from 14 to 15 August 2018. The Subject Advisors were trained by a team from the Provincial Education Department (PED), who received Mathematics training in Japan on the new approach of teachers preparing lessons together, in a group approach to teaching and learning. The training session took place at Dokkies Main Hall in Umbilo, Durban.

Western Cape Province



Western Cape
Government

Education

BETTER TOGETHER.

On 15 August 2018, MEC for Western Cape Education, Ms Debbie Schäfer, and Minister of Transport and Public Works, Mr Donald Grant, visited Molteno Pre-Primary School in Newlands which is a project executed by the Department of Transport and Public Works and funded by a Western Cape Education Department (WCED) Infrastructure Grant. The project is a conversion project that saw the former Newlands Clinic converted to a fully functional pre-primary school. The new pre-primary school boasts facilities and features that are conducive for learning. The lead architect in the project is Ms Rahdia Khatieb Parker, an award-winning and leading female architect in her profession, who is a symbol of passion, drive, and success. The Ministers will also highlight initiatives by the Western Cape Government to support females seeking to be professionals in the built environment.

Upcoming Events

- 18 August 2018: Minister Motshekga will be embarking on a Second Chance Matric Programme Roadshow at Moruleng Hall in Rustenburg in the North West Province
- 20 August 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on a provincial engagement visit to the Diamantveld School in Kimberley, Northern Cape Province to monitor the progress made in improving learning outcomes
- 21 August 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on a provincial engagement visit to the Roseview Primary School in Bloemfontein, Free State Province to monitor the progress made in improving learning outcomes
- 22 August 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on a provincial engagement visit to the Vaal Reefs Technical High School in Orkney, North West Province to monitor the progress made in improving learning outcomes
- 27 August 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on a provincial engagement visit to the Cape Teaching and Learning Institute in Cape Town, Western Cape Province to monitor the progress made in improving learning outcomes
- 29 August 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the Gauteng Province
- 30 August 2018: The Department will be hosting a seminar on Entrepreneurship Education at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 31 August 2018: The Teacher Appreciation and Support Programme (TASP) submission date for teachers to prepare and submit their presentations inspired by Madiba's values
- 01 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the Western Cape Province
- 05 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the Free State Province
- 06 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the Free State Province
- 07 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the Mpumalanga Province
- 07 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the Northern Cape Province

- 11 September 2018: The DBE will be hosting a Women’s Day Commemoration, along with the Gauteng Department of Education, at Constitution Hill in Johannesburg in the Gauteng Province
- 13 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the KwaZulu-Natal Province
- 13 -14 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the Limpopo Province
- 19 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the North West Province
- 20 September 2018: The World Development Report Workshop will be hosted at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 20 September 2018: A Lunchbox Lekgotla seminar will be taking place at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 21 – 22 September 2018: A Mathematics, Science and Technology (MST) Conditional Grant Inter-Provincial meeting will be taking place in the North West Province
- 24 September 2018: National Heritage Day
- 26 September 2018: The World School Milk Day (WSMD) national celebration will be taking place at Kruifontein Primary School in the Eastern Cape Province
- 28 – 30 September 2018: The annual iNkosi Albert Luthuli Oral History Programme will be taking place at Freedom Park, Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 03 – 07 October 2018: The national finals of the Eighth National Schools Moot Court Competition will be hosted at the Constitutional Court in Johannesburg, Gauteng Province
- 05 October 2018: A World Teachers’ Day Seminar will be hosted under the theme, “Teachers and teaching: the commemoration of the Nelson Mandela Centenary during the Fourth Industrial Revolution”
- 06 October 2018: The National Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted at the ZK Matthews Auditorium, Unisa in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 09 – 22 October 2018: So Chef! Workshops will be taking place in partnership with the Embassy of France at four selected secondary schools offering Consumer Study/Hospitality subjects in four provinces
- 11 October 2018: The National Nutrition Week (NNW) national celebrations will be hosted at Seganyane Primary School in Acornhoek, Bohlabela District, Mpumalanga Province
- 13 October 2018: The South African Council for Educators (SACE) will be hosting a fun walk in Centurion in the Gauteng Province as part of the Teacher Appreciation and Support Programme (TASP)
- 20 October 2018: The National Public Servants Sports and Cultural Event Tournament (NPSSCE) will be taking place at Hillview High School, Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 11 – 18 November 2018: The national adjudication process for the 19th Annual Teaching Awards (NTAs) will be taking place in the Gauteng Province
- 06 – 07 December 2018: Minister Angie Motshekga will be hosting her fourth quarter meeting with District Directors at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 16 February 2019: The 19th Annual Teaching Awards (NTAs) be taking place in the Gauteng Province
- 28 February – 01 March 2019: National School Nutrition Programme Forum and commemoration of Africa Day of School Feeding at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province

Enquiries:

Editor: Mr Elijah Mhlanga

Chief Director: Media Liaison - National and Provincial Communication

Tel. No: 012 357 3773