


**basic education**

 Department:  
Basic Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**THUTO**

**NEWSLETTER**

# Media briefing on CEM's response to President's directives for audit of sanitation facilities in schools



Basic Education Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga, has briefed the media, along with MECs, to present a sector-wide response to sanitation and ablution in South African schools. The Minister convened an urgent Council of Education Ministers (CEM) meeting at the Southern Sun, OR Tambo International Airport on 22 March 2018, to ensure the sector responds to President Cyril Ramaphosa's directives of providing an audit of sanitation facilities in schools. The directive was issued after the death of a learner who died after falling into a pit toilet.

"We have, as a collective, looked inward and had to urgently assess the extent of delivery and provisioning of safe and adequate sanitation within our existing plans. This would entail reviewing our plans and working collaboratively with provinces to enhance and accelerate the provision of adequate and safe sanitation and ablution facilities. We already have an existing plan in place that is intended to eradicate these unsafe and inadequate toilets. We need to confirm the information we already have and fast track our existing plans. Our priority is safety," said Minister Motshekga.

The Minister added that, as a temporary measure, the Department will consider the retrofitting of existing facilities to cater for Grade R learners to alternatively provide temporary facilities: "All our schools without any sanitation are to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Provinces will have to prioritise the provision of age appropriate toilet seats for Grade R learners in all schools".

A comprehensive, costed plan informed by the audit report, with all the needs identified for sanitation and ablution facilities in schools, will be submitted to the President within three months. Minister Motshekga said that the Department does not currently have all the information on the outstanding sanitation; and this information still needs to be verified. In order to give effect to the resolutions decided on, the budget reallocations and reprioritisations, as well as the review of the Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Delivery Initiative (ASIDI) allocations, and interventions from the National Treasury will be required.

Click on the below link for additional information:

[https://www.education.gov.za/Newsroom/MediaReleases/tabid/347/ctl/Details/mid/7002/ItemID/5555/Default.aspx ...](https://www.education.gov.za/Newsroom/MediaReleases/tabid/347/ctl/Details/mid/7002/ItemID/5555/Default.aspx...)

## Marikana Primary School opens its doors to learning and teaching





Lomnin is celebrating Human Rights Day with the opening of the New Marikana Primary School in the Bojanala District, Rustenburg in the North West Province on 23 March 2018. The new campus will enrich the Marikana community by providing a first rate educational facility.

The advent of the New Marikana Primary School heralds a new dawn for Marikana's learners, accommodating up to 750 learners in Grades R to 8. The new school facilities include a dedicated Grade R learning centre, ablution facilities (accommodating learners living with disabilities), a kitchen equipped to provide daily meals and a hall that can accommodate 900 learners.

“Partnerships in education are essential to the success of the sector. Addressing the needs of our children and ensuring all our learners are able to go to school in a conducive and safe environment is something we cannot do alone. We rely on our partners to assist us in addressing the inequalities of the past, especially regarding school infrastructure that still persist today. We would like to thank Lomnin for this immense investment to the education sector, but also to the future of our country and the Marikana community in particular who will greatly benefit from this inclusive school;” said Basic Education Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga in absentia.

## The new model of Systemic Evaluation



Dr Mark Chetty, Acting Director for National Assessment explained, that Systemic Evaluation refers to the determination of the extent to which the education system achieves set social, economic and transformational goals through the measurement of learner performance, as well as the context in which learners' experience learning and teaching. It involves a holistic evaluation of the system through a consideration of contextual factors affecting learner performance from a perspective of in-school factors and out-of-school system support factors.

The Annual National Assessment (ANA) was an assessment programme that focused on establishing learner achievement levels, assessing Grades 1 to 6 and 9 between 2011 and 2015. Annually, the programme involved approximately 7 million learners, involving all public schools and all learners who had registered for the assessment.

The new model of Systemic Evaluation is a comprehensive assessment of how the education system is performing in Grades 3, 6 and 9 against identified targets set out in the *Medium Term Strategic Framework* (MTSF) and the *National Development Plan* (NDP). It takes into account how learner achievement is being affected by their conditions of schooling and the level of support their schools

receive from the District Office. There are three components: Assessment of learners in Mathematics and Languages in Grades 3, 6 and 9; the Evaluation of schools through the application of Whole-school Evaluation; and the Evaluation of District support.

The model involves assessing a sample of learners from a representative sample of schools. Unlike the ANA, not all learners will participate in the Systemic Evaluation. The unit of analysis is the system, and will be conducted by an independent service provider. The frequency of Systemic Evaluation is also different to the ANA as it will be conducted every three years in contrast to annual assessments.

Click on the below link for the full article:

<https://www.education.gov.za/ArchivedDocuments/ArchivedArticles/TheNewModelOfSystemicEvaluation.aspx>

## Learners are invited to enter the 2018 SADC Secondary School Essay Competition



The topic for the 2018 Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secondary School Essay Competition is, “The role of private sector in developing industries and regional value chains”. This topic is derived from the 37th Ordinary SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government which is, “Partnering with the private sector in developing industry and regional value chains”. Learners should therefore discuss how partnerships with the private sector can promote industrial growth and foster development of value chains in key priority sectors among SADC member states.

The three selected essays from each province will be forwarded to the DBE by 06 April 2018, where after the three national winning essays will be submitted to the SADC Secretariat for consideration in the regional competition. The SADC Secretariat has allocated a sum of US \$1000 as prize money for the national winners of the Competition in each Member State.

The SADC Council of Ministers approved the establishment of the SADC Secondary School Essay Competition during 1995 to recognise the best work in the region. Since 1996, the SADC Secretariat has been co-ordinating the Secondary School Essay Competitions to encourage learners to support the process of regional co-operation and integration. Learners should forward their essays to their provincial co-ordinator by 06 April 2018.

Click on the below link for additional information on the marking guidelines, eligibility criteria and prizes:

<https://www.education.gov.za/Informationfor/Learners/SADCEssayCompetition.aspx>



*ANGOLA*



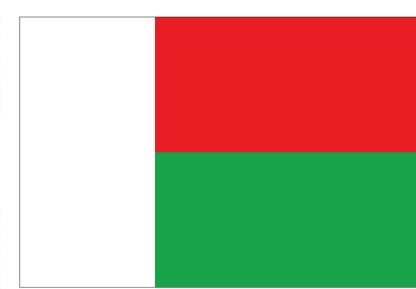
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*LESOTHO*



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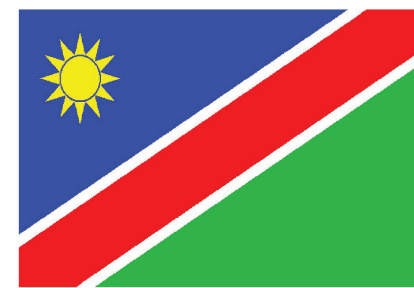
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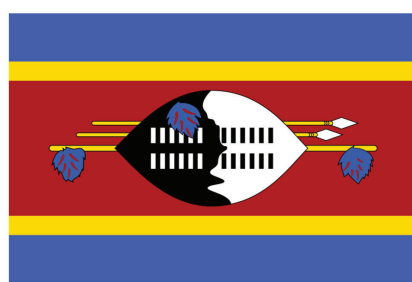
*NAMIBIA*



*SEYCHELLES*



*SOUTH AFRICA*



*SWAZILAND*



*TANZANIA*



*ZAMBIA*



*ZIMBABWE*

**Regional Round-up**



## KwaZulu-Natal



### education

Department:

Education

**PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL**

The KwaZulu-Natal Departments for Education and Health have been allocated the lion's share of the provincial budget for the 2018/19 financial year. MEC for Finance, Ms Belinda Scott, tabled the 2018/19 MTEF Budget in the Provincial Legislature in Pietermaritzburg on 16 March 2018. MEC Scott announced an allocation of R50.9 billion to the Provincial Education Department (PED) to be used for various activities, including infrastructure projects planned for this financial year. The PED has budgeted on spending an amount of R6.8 billion on infrastructure projects, which include the construction of a number of new schools such as the uMtamtengwayo Primary School in the Pinetown District, the Mkhamba Gardens Primary School in the uThukela District and the Mahlabeni Primary School in the uMkhanyakude District.

Another focus will be on improving curriculum delivery, particularly through ensuring access to high quality Learner Teacher Support Material (LTSM). Additional resources will also be provided to schools through kits for learners who are enrolled in Mathematics and Science, as well as consumables for practical work. All learners in Quintiles 1, 2 and 3 schools will continue to receive daily meals through the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) grant. Funds have also been allocated for Early Childhood Development (ECD). The PED will continue to focus on providing education for learners with special needs. All schools will have curriculum delivery targets which will be monitored by Circuit Managers on a monthly basis.

## Eastern Cape



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**EASTERN CAPE**

EDUCATION

The Eastern Cape Department of Education (ECDE) has helped restored hope to the community of Storms River in the Koukama Circuit, which is situated in the Sarah Baartman Education District, with the construction of a new primary school that will open its doors to the first batch of learners in May this year. The new school includes a high quality security fence, 9 classrooms, a state of the art library, a computer laboratory, an administration block, a kitchen, 3 storerooms and water tanks for harvesting rain water. The new multi-million rand facility will increase the school's enrolment figures from 80 to 227 learners. Storms River Primary School principal, Mr Isaak Mashaka, said that the school started in Kousa Church in 1939 and was moved to four houses that were offered by the community as classrooms during 2000, after which the ECED provided the school with temporary structures. "Now that the construction company is about to finish the first phase of the school, we are very happy as this will improve teaching and learning conditions for these learners."

## Upcoming Events

- 01 – 31 March 2018: School Governing Body (SGB) Elections
- 26 – 27 March 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on his Provincial Engagement Programme to the Western Cape Province
- 06 April 2018: The National Education Excellence Awards will be hosted at the Maslow Time Square Menlyn in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 06 – 07 April 2018: The Annual Physical Education Symposium will be hosted in partnership with the Physical Education Institute of South Africa (PEISA) in Kimberley, Northern Cape Province
- 06 April – 10 May 2018: Physical Education Month
- 18 – 20 April 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on his Provincial Engagement Programme to the Mpumalanga Province
- 19 April 2018: A Lunchbox Lekgotla seminar will be taking place at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 17 May 2018: A Lunchbox Lekgotla seminar will be taking place at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 21 June 2018: A Lunchbox Lekgotla seminar will be taking place at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 28 – 29 June 2018: Minister Angie Motshekga will be hosting her second quarter meeting with District Directors at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 19 July 2018: A Lunchbox Lekgotla seminar will be taking place at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 16 August 2018: A Lunchbox Lekgotla seminar will be taking place 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
- 20 – 21 September 2018: Minister Angie Motshekga will be hosting her third quarter meeting with District Directors at the DBE in Pretoria, 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



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