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THE DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION



NEWSLETTER

Minister Motshekga discusses intervention plans with North West Department of Education and Sport Development

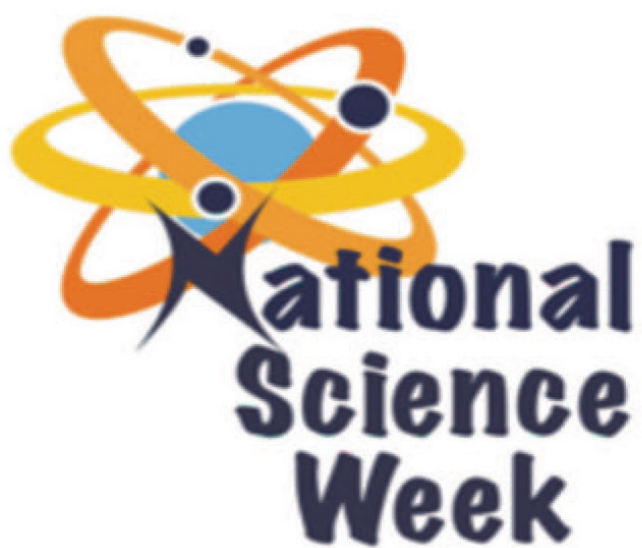


The Minister of Basic Education, Mrs Angie Motshekga, held a series of meetings in Mafikeng in the North West Province on 25 July 2018, to examine progress made in the eight areas identified for the section 100(1)(b) intervention, as well as to brief critical education stakeholders about the intervention plans. The initial meeting was with the MEC, Mr Jonas Sello Lehari, as well as senior managers from both the National and Provincial Departments, to receive an update from the Department's Administrator, Mr Nkhono Johannes Mohlala, the provincial Superintendent-General, Ms Stephinah Semaswe and senior managers on the various areas of intervention.

One of the major areas reported on was that of curriculum coverage and the implementation of the catch-up plan for learners who were negatively affected by the community protests that resulted in school closures earlier this year. The province reported positively that catch up plans were underway and that many of the learners had attended successful winter camps to recover teaching and learning time lost.

Minister Motshekga met with a number of education stakeholders, which included Education Sector Unions that are active in the province, as well as School Governing Bodies (SGBs) and approximately 1,500 school principals. The Minister and the Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, introduced stakeholders to the Administrator and took them through the areas of the intervention. The Minister has welcomed the levels of co-operation received from the provincial department and the various stakeholders thus far.

National Science Week aims to increase number of learner enrolment in Mathematics, Science and Technology



Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in public education is a key strategy in enhancing South Africa's competitiveness in the rapidly changing global 21st Century economy. The achievement of South African learners in Science and Mathematics remains low in international comparisons, and stark racial achievement gaps persist.

National Science Week (NSW), an initiative of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), is a countrywide celebration of science, involving various stakeholders and role players conducting science-based activities throughout the week. NSW aims to increase the number of learner enrolment in Mathematics, Science and Technology. The South African Agency for Science and Technology (SAASTA) has been appointed by the DST as the implementing agency. Held nationally at various universities, schools and science centres,

this year's activities take place under the theme: "Celebrating Mama Albertina Sisulu, a Woman of Fortitude: Deepening democracy through science, technology and innovation".

The South African Mathematics Foundation (SAMF) will be hosting activities to promote the importance of Mathematics. The mathematical activities aim to popularise Mathematics to increase public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the subject.

The NSW 2018 national launch event will be hosted by the University of Mpumalanga in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga Province on 28 July 2018. The focus week will commence on 30 July and end on 04 August 2018. An estimated 3,700 learners from around the province are expected to visit the more than 80 exhibitions.

Former Grade 12 learner, Ms Fiona Khoza from Mahhushe Agricultural High School, who won the Siemens Grand Prize at the 2017 Eskom Expo for Young Scientists, will do a science presentation. The young science boffin won last year's competition with an innovative solar tracking device.

Join us for National Science Week 2018 29 July - 4 August 2018

*Celebrating Mama Albertina Sisulu, a Woman of Fortitude
Deepening democracy through science, technology and innovation*



DBE hosts Professional Development Framework for Digital Learning workshop for Higher Education Institutions



It is imperative for the Department of Basic Education to prepare teachers for the Fourth Industrial Revolution. For this reason, the DBE is moving in the direction of 100% digitised content. The Department embarked on a variety of workshops to roll out the *Professional Development Framework for Digital Learning*. These workshops form part of a series of roadshows which are aimed at presenting the Framework to various stakeholders as part of its implementation. A workshop for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) was held with the Faculties of Education representatives from 24 universities at Southern Sun, OR Tambo on 26 July 2018.

In acknowledging that the three areas of Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) should be present in professional development activities, the Framework adopts TPACK, which places the importance on learning and how digital resources can positively transform classroom experiences for both teachers and learners when used effectively. The Framework presents 13 competencies which teachers should aspire for to ensure that the students possess these competencies when they start their teaching careers. One of the resources to assist HEIs in achieving these objectives is a Toolkit for Teacher Training Institutions to guide them to align their pre-service teacher education activities to competencies and key ideas in the Framework.

Addressing the workshop, Director for Learning and Teaching Support Material (LTSM) Policy Development and Innovation, Ms Kulula Manona, emphasised that, “digital learning is not about technology, but rather how technology is used to enhance learning in the classroom context and beyond”.

The workshop for HEIs was facilitated by Deputy Director for LTSM Policy Development and Innovation, Mr Gerald Roos. Speaking during the workshop, he indicated that, “HEIs are one of the critical stakeholders in training in digital learning as they are responsible for preparing student teachers through initial teacher education. The recognition of pedagogy is the critical element in digital learning, which is about integration of digital tools and content resources to enhance quality learning and teaching in schools”.

Provincial roadshows commenced with the first in a series of workshops having taken place in North West Province from 09 to 25 July 2018. These workshops were mainly designed to train the Provincial Core Training Teams (PCTTs). Similar workshops have been planned for other provinces, with KwaZulu-Natal next in line from 30 July 2018, followed by Gauteng Province. These roadshows will continue throughout the months of August and September 2018.

8th National Schools Moot Court Competition - a platform for learners to experiment with the application of the country's supreme law



The DBE, in partnership with the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, the University of Pretoria and the Foundation for Human Rights will again be hosting the annual National Schools Moot Court Competition for high schools from 03 to 07 October 2018. All essays for the Competition should be submitted by 27 July 2018.

The annual South African National Schools Moot Court Competition, established in 2011, aims at creating greater consciousness and understanding in South African schools and communities about the *Constitution* and the values embodied by it through the active participation of learners in a Moot Court Competition. Since its inception in 2011, the Competition has explored various sections of the *Bill of Rights* such as rights, equality, freedom of expression and human dignity. It offers a platform for young people to experiment with the actual application of the country's supreme law.

This year, the teams have to use the 2018 hypothetical problem statement to write their essays and compete in the provincial rounds, the national semi-finals and the national finals on intricate constitutional matters. The 2018 Schools Moot Court Competition Problem Statement that will be argued centres around section 27 of the *School Code of Conduct* on dress code requirements.

The winners receive financial assistance towards their first year studies at any South African University to study law. The Moot is divided into written and oral rounds. All secondary schools in South Africa are invited to send a team of two learners to present their essays, each arguing the opposing view of the set fictional question. A panel of experts evaluate the submissions and select the four best submissions from all nine provinces which are then invited to the semi-final oral rounds held at the University of Pretoria. The finals, which include a prize giving ceremony, will be taking place at the Constitutional Court in Johannesburg on 07 October 2018.

Click on the below link for additional information on the Competition:

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



e-Matric project enables you to apply online



The DBE has developed an online service which entails the following:

- e-Matric e-Registration which allows learners who did not finish matric to write their examinations;
- e-Matric e-Remark/Recheck which allows learners to apply for the remark/recheck of their examination papers; and
- e-Matric e-Re-Issue for matric certificates. Members of the public can also utilise this service to apply for the replacement of lost or damaged certificates, or a combination of matric results.

The purpose of e-Government is to make government services more accessible online, reduce the cost of assessing those services, streamline administrative processes, improve turnaround times and strengthen accountability and responsiveness.

The e-Services website provides access to more efficient government services owing to greater engagement with citizens. The e-Services website improves service delivery to citizens, interaction with partners, business and industry, as well as citizen empowerment through access to information in line with the Batho Pele Principles.

Click on the below link to access the service:

www.eservices.gov.za

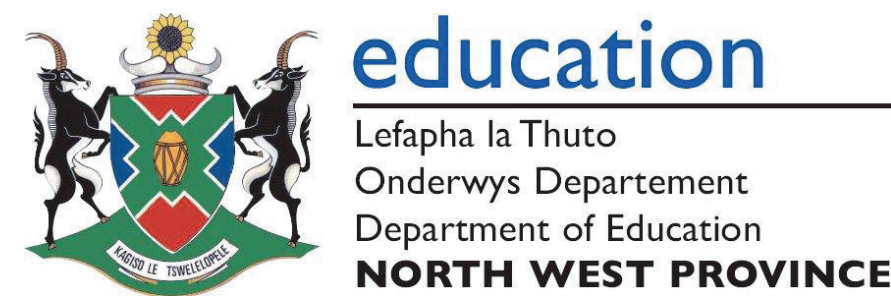
Provincial Round-up

Eastern Cape Province



A move to ensure learners choose correct subject combinations for better career pathing has prompted the Eastern Cape Department of Education (ECDoE) to host a career expo for Grade 9 to 12 learners in Queenstown at the JJ Serfontein Centre from 26 to 27 July 2018. This two day expo, which forms part of the Department's contribution towards the empowerment of youth, seeks to provide learners with an opportunity to explore and interact with exhibitors who are industry specialists and participate in career orientated activities. Additionally, the expo will help learners obtain first-hand information from the industry specialists about career pathing options. In line with the Department's subject combination policy, participating learners will also include Grade 9 learners as their selection is critical for subject combination. According to Education Head of Department (HoD), Mr Themba Kojana, this move will help learners in their future endeavours.

North West Province



The North West Department of Education and Sport Development, in partnership with Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA), Boxing South Africa (BSA) and the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), will be hosting and staging the third instalment of the Development and Professional Boxing Bouts at the Rustenburg Civic Centre on Friday, 27 July 2018. The boxing tournament will be preceded by the official weigh-in and formal introduction of boxers on 26 July 2018, at the same venue.

Northern Cape Province



The Northern Cape Department of Education (NCDoE) confirmed that schools in the Kimberley area, this week, remained open in the midst of rumours of possible protest action. Parents and educators were urged to exercise caution and use their own discretion in respect of safety matters affecting them, as well as learners at these schools. The NCDoE further appealed to the public to allow educators and learners access to education for learning and teaching to continue as usual whilst they are faced with the shortest term of the school academic year to complete the curriculum coverage. The Department is engaged with the SAPS to ensure that the situation is continuously monitored.

Upcoming Events

- 27 – 29 July 2018: The national finals of the Youth Citizens Action Programme (YCAP) 2018 will be hosted at Swadini Resort, Blyderivierspoort Nature Reserve in Hoedspruit, Limpopo Province
- 30 July 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on a provincial engagement visit to the Albert Luthuli School in Daveyton to monitor the progress made in improving learning outcomes in the Gauteng Province
- 30 July – 04 August 2018: The *Professional Development Framework for Digital Learning* capacity building roadshow will be taking place in the KwaZulu-Natal Province
- 31 July 2018: The Gauteng MEC for Education, Mr Panyaza Lesufi, will be launching the Rhodesfield Engineering School of Specialisation with an aviation focus at the Rhodesfield Technical School in Kempton Park, Gauteng Province
- 31 July 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on a provincial engagement visit to the Sterling Institute in East London to monitor the progress made in improving learning outcomes in the Eastern Cape Province
- 08 August 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on a provincial engagement visit to the Roseview Primary School in Bloemfontein to monitor the progress made in improving learning outcomes in the Free State Province
- 13 August 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on a provincial engagement visit to the Limpopo Province to monitor the progress made in improving learning outcomes
- 14 August 2018: President Cyril Ramaphosa and Minister Angie Motshekga will be hosting a Presidential Business Breakfast to launch the Appropriate School Sanitation Campaign in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 14 August 2018: President Cyril Ramaphosa and Minister Angie Motshekga will be hosting a Presidential Business Breakfast at the SM Makgato Presidential Guest House in Pretoria to launch the Appropriate School Sanitation Campaign
- 16 August 2018: Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on a provincial engagement visit to the John Mdluli School in Nelspruit to monitor the progress made in improving learning outcomes in the Mpumalanga Province
- 16 August 2018: A Lunchbox Lekgotla seminar will be taking place at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 17 August 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the Eastern Cape Province
- 29 August 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the 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
- 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
- 13 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the KwaZulu-Natal Province
- 13 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the North West Province
- 13 – 14 September 2018: The provincial leg of the Spelling Bee Championships will be hosted in the Limpopo Province
- 20 September 2018: A Lunchbox Lekgotla seminar will be taking place at the DBE in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 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
- 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

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