



THUTO

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THE DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION



NEWSLETTER

Tackling sanitation issues in the education sector on World Toilet Day



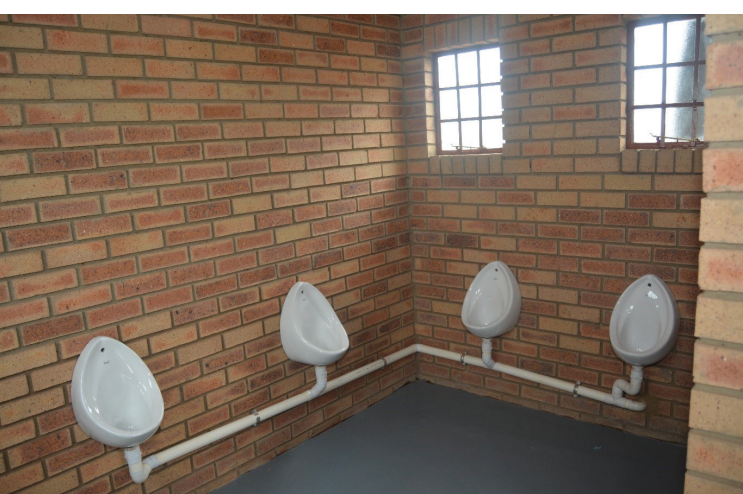
The Department of Basic Education (DBE), in partnership with Unilever South Africa, commemorated World Toilet Day on 19 November 2018, during a Flush Forum Workshop at The Galleria in Sandton. The workshop aimed to raise awareness and to discuss solutions around sanitation issues facing South African schools.

President Cyril Ramaphosa, along with Basic Education Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga, launched the Sanitation Appropriate for Education (SAFE) initiative at the Sheraton Hotel during August 2018, in an effort to ensure appropriate sanitation at schools. President Ramaphosa implored the business community to partner with the DBE to assist Government in restoring dignity to our children by eradicating pit latrines in schools. "The SAFE initiative will spare generations of young South Africans the indignity, discomfort and danger of using pit latrines and other unsafe facilities in our schools. Schools should be places where children can be safe, supported, nurtured and empowered," said President Ramaphosa during the launch.



World Toilet Day is an annual United Nations international observance day to inspire action to tackle the global sanitation crisis as part of Sustainable Development Goal 6, to ensure safe toilets by 2030. Globally, a total of 4.5 billion people live without proper sanitation.

<https://www.education.gov.za/SAFE.aspx>



Minister Motshekga embarks on roadshow to Khayelitsha



Basic Education Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga, addressed congregation members of the Revelation Church of God (RCG), when she took the Second Chance Matric Support Programme (SCMSP), the Funza Lushaka Bursary Programme and the *Read to Lead Campaign* combined roadshow to Khayelitsha in the Western Cape Province on 11 November 2018. “Our children, as future citizens of this country, are our only hope for defeating the scourge of poverty and for improving the health and wellbeing of our communities to build an economically-viable society of educated, enlightened and employable citizens, with applicable skills and knowledge,” said Minister Motshekga.

Minister Motshekga, through Macmillan Publishers, donated over 2,000 books to the community of Khayelitsha and the RCG library in support of the *Read to Lead Campaign*. The focus of the Campaign is to improve the reading abilities of all South African children, and to ensure that all learners are able to demonstrate age appropriate levels of reading.

The Minister also encouraged the youth to acquire their matric qualification as it is the key to opening the doors of opportunity. The Ministerial roadshows will continue nationally to assist all candidates who have previously not met the requirements of the National Senior Certificate (NSC), as well as those currently in matric, to take advantage of the Programme to obtain a formal qualification.

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



DBE satisfied with administration of NSC Examinations



Thus far, the DBE is satisfied with the conduct and administration of the 2018 NSC Examinations, currently in its fourth week.

“As at 13 November 2018, a total of 146 out of 195 question papers have been written. The most serious administrative challenge thus far has been in relation to community protests. This has caused a late start to the examinations in some of the provinces, but the swift action of officials have ensured that candidates have been moved to alternative venues to write their examinations,” said Ms Priscilla Ogunbanjo, Director for National Assessment and Public Examinations.

Ms Ogunbanjo explained that, “During 2018, a series of new subjects have been offered for the first time in the Grade 12 NSC Examinations. These include South African Sign Language Home Language (SASL HL), Technical Mathematics, Technical Science and Civil Technology. A total of 45,273 candidates wrote one or more of these subjects during the 2018 NSC Examinations”.

Ms Ogunbanjo also added that Inclusive Education continues to receive much needed attention saying, “A total of 3,838 candidates with special needs sat for the 2018 NSC Examinations”.

[https://www.education.gov.za/Curriculum/NationalSeniorCertificate\(NSC\)Examinations.aspx](https://www.education.gov.za/Curriculum/NationalSeniorCertificate(NSC)Examinations.aspx)

Adjudication process for the 19th National Teaching Awards finalised



The DBE acknowledges and celebrates excellence in the teaching profession through the Teacher Appreciation and Support Programme (TASP) annually. The National Teaching Awards (NTAs) is a comprehensive process that commences in the provinces with the nomination, identification and sifting through of expertise and excellence in the teaching profession, and covering teachers from a range of South African schools. The NTA is also one of the ways in which the DBE acknowledges extraordinary efforts made by teachers, often in very difficult conditions.

After provincial processes that culminate with award ceremonies, the provincial winners proceed to national eliminations through an adjudication process overseen by various stakeholders. This adjudication process took place at the Kopanong Hotel and Conference Centre in Benoni, Gauteng Province, from 11 to 18 November 2018. A total of 90 winning finalists from 10 categories across all nine provinces made presentations for the 19th annual NTAs.

Each category is divided into general and specific criteria. The general category tests teachers' knowledge of education policies and how these are applied on a daily basis. Issues of addressing social ills such as crime, bullying, gangsterism and substance abuse are part of this general criteria. The candidates' contribution to extra-curricular activities in the school community for the holistic development of learners is also placed under the spotlight.

The specific criteria sheds light on areas or subjects under consideration during the adjudication process, for example, excellence in Mathematics teaching would reflect how a teacher enhances excellence in conceptual understanding, injects fun into Mathematics learning and integrates resources to reach the desired goals. Presentations thus far showed innovation, creativity, excellence and the extent to which teachers go over and above the normal expectations of classroom practice, indicating that South Africa has excellent teachers.

The 19th annual NTA ceremony, hosted by Basic Education Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga, is scheduled to take place on 16 February 2019 at the Sandton Convention Centre in the Gauteng Province. This event promises to be a celebration of note to honour our national winners.



Khetha Centre established at the Department of Basic Education



The DBE provides a walk-in service to the public where certification services are rendered from Monday to Friday, 08:00 to 16:00. Approximately 300 members of the public visit the Certification Centre on a daily basis. This provides an ideal opportunity for the delivery of career development services such as the sharing of information, as well as advice and career guidance.

In keeping with the need to expand and improve the provision of career development services, a multi-service Career Development Centre, also known as a Khetha Centre, has been established within the parameters of the existing Certification Centre at the DBE, in collaboration with the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET).

The Khetha Centre will provide access to the National Career Advice Portal (NCAP) and the Career Help website. In addition, it will also provide access to NCAP assessment tools and an opportunity to complete these assessments and to obtain immediate results. The Centre will also provide access to a career development practitioner (CDP) for the dissemination of information and provision of guidance and advice, and for access to the National Career Helpline system through email and telephone facilities.

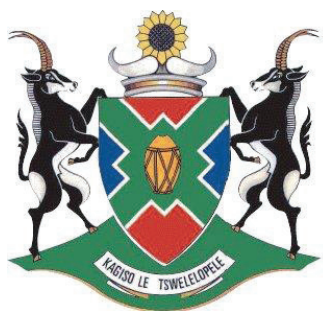
Provincial Round-up

Gauteng Province



GAUTENG PROVINCE
EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Gauteng Education MEC, Mr Panyaza Lesufi, recently launched an innovative aviation programme for Grade 5 learners in Mathematics and Science at the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre in Newtown, Johannesburg. More than 400 pupils at primary school level will use Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) to learn the principles of aviation through the programme. The programme, which will benefit learners from Lyndhurst, Bovet, Halfway House, Mitaketa and Nokuphila Primary Schools, is a partnership between the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) and the Fortune 100 company, Honeywell International. “The idea is to start at primary school level to get them interested in Mathematics and Science from an early age before they reach high school. This is to inspire learners to have fun with Mathematics and Science, and we hope that this will change the perception of these subjects,” said Mr Vivian Smith, Head of Transformation at Honeywell Africa. The programme is close to the Education MEC’s heart as it advances his vision of creating education that will benefit all pupils despite their background.



The North West Department of Education and Sport Development announced that the Machakela-Mamodibo Secondary School in Hammanskraal was named the Developing School Team of the Year in the 13th annual SA Sports Awards, held on 11 November 2018, in Bloemfontein. The school made the province proud in obtaining first position for its sterling performance in the U/19 netball category. MEC Sello Lehari said, “We cannot over-emphasise the importance of school sports. Not only does sport encourage learners to engage in physical activity, but grooms them to become future champions. We are truly proud of this achievement. Apart from being crowned a winner during the SA Sports Awards, the school also received a minibuss and a trailer from Sport and Recreation South Africa.

Upcoming Events

- 21 November 2018: Minister Motshekga to embark on a Second Chance Matric Support Programme Roadshow to the Civic Hall, De Aar in the Northern Cape Province
- 22 November 2018: Minister Motshekga to embark on a Second Chance Matric Support Programme Roadshow to the Kuyasa Community Hall, Colesberg in the Northern Cape Province
- 22 – 23 November 2018: A Mathematics, Science and Technology (MST) Conditional Grant inter-provincial meeting will be taking place in the KwaZulu-Natal Province
- 24 November 2018: Minister Motshekga to embark on a Second Chance Matric Support Programme Roadshow to the Mothibistad Multipurpose Centre, Kuruman in the Northern Cape Province
- 30 November 2018: The DBE will be commemorating World AIDS Day at Pondolwendlovu Senior Secondary School in the OR Tambo Coastal District, Eastern Cape Province

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