



# THUTO

PRODUCED BY:  
THE DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION



**NEWSLETTER**

## DBE celebrates the life and legacy of Mr Andrew William Kutumela



Tributes continue to pour in for Mr Andrew William Kutumela, Director at Education Labour Relations and Conditions of Service, who passed away on Saturday, 08 June 2019, after a short illness. Mr Kutumela was the DBE specialist on labour matters involving teachers and was the Department's negotiator at the Bargaining Council.

Ms Maggie Mogale, Deputy Director in Mr Kutumela's Directorate, delivered the speech during the Memorial Service held at the Department of Basic Education (DBE) Building in Pretoria on Thursday, 13 June 2019. "The Department has lost a great man and the institutional memory he had can never be replaced. The experience he gained as the Director for labour relations in the Mpumalanga Department of Education, as well as Director for Education Labour Relations and Conditions of Service, spans many years. Mr Kutumela dedicated his life to his work by fulfilling the call he was appointed to do.

"His tasks were many, complex and often stressful: working long hours and during weekends. He conducted negotiations on behalf of the State in the Education Labour Relations Council (ELRC) and Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council (PSCBC) regulating Labour Relations within the education sector through Collective Bargaining and to monitor the implementations of Collective Agreements. At the time of his death, he was engaged in arbitrations and assisting other departments, the South African Council for Educators (SACE) and Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) in dealing with Dispute Resolution. That was the selfless Mr Kutumela we all knew," said Ms Mogale.

SADTU National Deputy General-Secretary, Mr Nkosana Dolopi, also attended the Memorial Service at the DBE Building in Pretoria. Members of staff gathered at the Conference Centre to pay tribute to Mr Kutumela whose contribution to the sector touched and impacted many people across the country.

In his speech, Mr Dolopi said that Mr Kutumela was a dedicated comrade who was present at the formation and subsequent launch of the South African Democratic Teachers' Union (SADTU) on 6 October 1990. He added that Kutumela's dedication was unparalleled and he took his responsibilities seriously at all times.

# Condolence Messages

*Sorrow fills our hearts during this sad moment, a sorrow that is deep and personal. Bro Willy has silently closed the door of life and departed from us. Our lives will be empty in the areas that he had brightened for us.*

*Mr Kutumela was not only a colleague, but a friend to all he worked with. He will be fondly remembered for his sharp sense of dress, friendly smile and ability to bring calm to any situation. His knowledge and experience in Human Resource Management and Labour Relations was extensive owing to his many years of service for the State, in particular in the Education Sector.*

*Bra Willie was a friend, a tower of strength, inspirational and compassionate. May the memories of collegiality sustain our strength during the days ahead - unforgettable memories to forever hold in your hearts and souls.*

*There now is a gap in our lives and you will be missed immensely, but we need to recall the words of Khalil Gibran, artist, poet and author who said: "For life and death are one, even as the river and the sea are one".*

*I admired him and his work ethics so much. Whenever there was an impasse on education related matters in the provinces, he was there. His passion and dedication was evident in the manner in which he conducted his work, be it in the office, or during meetings. I still expect to hear his voice in the morning when I arrive at the office as we were among the first to arrive early in the mornings. Vha edele nga mulalo!*

*Bro Willy, all the lessons you have taught as an educator in those years when you were still young have not been forgotten; your knowledge and wisdom were infectious. The life lessons you have taught us as an elder, will never go unnoticed. You were a true civil servant! The positive mark you have left embedded in everyone's minds will last forever. Your legacy will live on Somuthwa!*

*Fare ye well Comrade, your race is done!*



# Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on the 25 Year Review of the Education Sector



Delegates representing the Department of Basic Education (DBE) and the Education Sector, attended a Stakeholder Consultation Workshop at the DBE Building in Pretoria on 10 June 2019. In celebration of the 25th anniversary of democracy in South Africa, Cabinet has directed the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) to coordinate a 25 Year Review Project reflecting on the work of Government at all levels. The purpose of the Workshop was to engage with stakeholders on the draft basic education report before the production of the final report, reflecting on the challenges and achievements since 1994.

During the Workshop, Chief Director for Strategic Planning, Research and Co-ordination, Ms Carol Nuga-Deliwe, said: “The DBE’s report provides a strategic overview on the educational outcomes that have been achieved over the past 25 years, with a focus on the themes of access, efficiency, quality, and equity in education”.

The progress in respect of building blocks of the Basic Education Sector, the six sub-outcomes for Outcome 1 (Basic Education), were unpacked by Dr Stephen Taylor, Director for Research, Co-ordination, Monitoring and Evaluation. These are: improved quality teaching and learning through the development, supply and effective utilisation of teachers; the provision of adequate, quality infrastructure and Learning and Teaching Support Material (LTSM); improving assessment for learning to ensure quality and efficiency in academic achievement; expanded access to Early Childhood Development (ECD); strengthening accountability and improving management at school, community and district level; and partnerships for educational reform and improved quality.

The six outcomes were unpacked and discussed during the commission sessions, and will be incorporated into the final report, which will be submitted to the DPME during the second half of 2019. Following the DPME’s release of the government report, the comprehensive basic education report will be available on the DBE website.

<https://www.education.gov.za/25YearReviewoftheEducationSector.aspx>



## DBE participates in 9th SA AIDS Conference in Durban



Today, 14 June 2019, is the final day of the 2019 9<sup>th</sup> SA AIDS Conference held at the Durban International Convention Centre (ICC) in the KwaZulu-Natal Province. The four day Conference commenced on 11 June 2019, and saw HIV and AIDS delegates from across the global village coming together to drive an enhanced response to HIV, TB and STI's. This year's theme is "Unprecedented Innovations and Technologies: HIV and Change".

The DBE, together with the South African National AIDS Council (SANAC), hosted a satellite session focusing on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) and Sexual Reproductive Health Service as game changers to HIV prevention within the education sector. Part of the objectives were to identify and define the epidemic in 10 to 19-year-old learners within the context of the HIV, STI and TB response; and to share the sector's National Strategic Plan (NSP) on HIV, TB and STI's, as well as the outcomes of the implementation of CSE.

Basic Education Deputy Director-General for Social Mobilisation and Support Services, Dr Granville Whittle, welcomed delegates to the session which was chaired by the South African National AIDS Council Trust (SANAC) Executive Manager for the implementation of the (NSP), Ms Coceka Noguduka. Professor Khangelani Zuma, Executive Director of the Social Aspects of Public Health Research Programme from the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) South Africa, highlighted the findings of the HIV Prevalence Survey that reports that half of the 10 to 19 year olds who are HIV positive, are not receiving antiretroviral (ARV) treatment due to a number of factors including HIV stigmatization, which greatly contributes to the spread of HIV, and ultimately untimely deaths.

DBE Chief Director for Social Inclusion and Partnerships, Dr Patricia Watson, focussed on strengthening CSE in the country through curriculum design for learning material alignment: "Life Orientation plays a vital role in health education and universities should come on board in prioritising the importance of the subject," she concluded.



## Advocating Economic Citizenship and Employment during Youth Month



**1976-2019**  
43 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE

#YouthMonth2019



The DBE is committed to ensuring that learners complete secondary school and gain the necessary 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills to develop into responsible citizens contributing towards the economic growth of the country.

The Fifth Child and Youth Finance International Summit will be taking place during Youth Month 2019, under the banner of “Economic Citizenship and Employment: A Future for All” in Johannesburg, from 19 to 20 June 2019. The Summit will bring together delegates from across the world to highlight the importance of economic citizenship education and financial inclusion in equipping youth to manage their income and be financially responsible.

South Africa commemorates 16 June and the 1976 Soweto uprising annually to pay tribute to learners who stood up against the Apartheid Government. Observed as a public holiday, the day serves as a reminder that the youth should be provided with opportunities for personal growth and development. Key points to be discussed at this year’s Summit include the financial inclusion and education for young people and vulnerable groups; entrepreneurship; and additional strategies for financial education. The Summit brings together senior representatives from governments, financial institutions and civil society. These include the central banks of Nigeria, Zambia, Uganda, Jordan, Kenya and Malawi, as well as representatives from the World Bank, the African Union and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).

This year’s Youth Month coincides with the commemoration of 25 years of Freedom and Democracy.

## ABC Motsepe SASCE showcases gifted young learners



The annual ABC Motsepe South African Schools Choral Eisteddfod (SASCE) will be taking place from 25 to 28 June 2019 at the Rhema Bible Church in Randburg, Gauteng Province. The theme of the 2019 competition is: “Celebrating 25 years of our democracy”.

Celebrating its 19<sup>th</sup> year, the ABC Motsepe SASCE, is one of the Department’s most significant cultural events on the annual school calendar. The aim of the competition is to enhance the talents of South African learners through on-stage musical performance and song. The Eisteddfod programme, which is part of the DBE’s school enrichment programme, focuses on promoting unity in diversity; national reconciliation; positive values; a new South African national identity; and social transformation and social cohesion among school-going South African youth.

“We are proud to contribute to the development of music and unearth talent from our South African Schools. It gives us pleasure to see such talent in our young people and it encourages us to continue giving towards developing music in schools. This programme resonates with our vision to alleviate poverty and sustainably improve the living standards of the poor, unemployed and marginalised people of South Africa,” said Patrice Motsepe from the Motsepe Foundation.

Creativity, inspiration and pure talent is showcased during the annual ABC Motsepe SASCE competition, featuring primary and secondary schools from all nine provinces participating in various categories, including Solo Soprano, Mezzo Soprano, Solo Tenor, Solo Bass, Duet and Small Ensemble. Music, like all other forms of cultural expression, is an important contributor towards the holistic education of our youth, preparing them for constructive lives and fulfilling futures as South African citizens.

## The Data Driven Dashboard – providing instant online access to education-related data



The Data Driven Districts Dashboard is an approachable, highly intuitive dashboard that displays education-related information to education officials at all levels in the South African schooling system. This dashboard allows for the visualisation of a broad spectrum of information, in summary as well as in detailed views, to help education officials make informed data driven decisions, which can ultimately lead to the improvement of the educational outcomes of all learners. The Valistractor is an application that validates and extracts school data for the purposes of display on the DBE Dashboard, and a key tool in improving the quality of data collected for 21<sup>st</sup> Century data management.

The dashboard has an ever-growing list of standard reports which provide additional insights into the information at hand. The reports can be saved for offline use and provide access to information, even when no connectivity to the dashboard is available. The phase view allows users at district level and below to focus on a specific phase of the education system, and provides the ability to compare subjects within that phase. Further navigation into a specific subject provides a direct comparison between the schools offering that subject, which further informs where interventions are required. The term to date view offers a summary of both educator and learner attendance on a week-by-week basis, and the task marks for the term so far.

The data, obtained from the SA School Administration and Management System (SA-SASM), is used to populate the Dashboard. SA-SAMS is an actively developed and maintained computer application, specifically designed to meet all School Administration, Management and Governance needs of South African Schools (Public, Specialised, Full-Service and Private). The solution assists schools, Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) and the DBE in record keeping, reporting and statistical analysis. Data is collected on a national basis by means of LURITS (the Learner Unit Record Information and Tracking System), where it can be securely accessed for further analysis (Data Driven Districts), for effective decision-making on various levels.



## Overcoming hurdles to access basic education for children with albinism



13 June 2019 marks International Albinism Awareness Day, under the theme: “STILL STANDING STRONG”. This motto is a call for all to recognise, celebrate and stand in solidarity with persons with albinism globally. It is also a call for all to support the cause for building a social just society, where human rights for all are promoted, celebrated and protected. Persons with albinism have and continue to face hurdles that undermine their enjoyment of human rights for a variety of reasons.

Albinism is not a mental disability or impairment. It is a genetic condition, which babies inherit from their parents. The progress of learners with albinism may seem slow, but this will largely be due to problems they may be experiencing with eyesight; inadequately adapted classrooms; inadequate knowledge about how to support them; prejudice and discrimination; and isolation and rejection by their significant others such as parents, teachers and peers.

This means that with relevant support and positive messages from parents, teachers, peers and community at large, they can reach their full potential. Teachers and schools must provide support to learners with albinism through, for instance, large print material; reasonable accommodations; assistive devices and technology; and psychosocial support. In addition, parents, learners, educators and communities must work together to participate in and support initiatives to cultivate a culture of respect for human rights of people with albinism.

Learners with albinism have a right to a basic education. Given the fact that children with albinism are a heterogeneous group, and whether they attend a mainstream or special school depends on their parents’ choice and which institution is likely to provide more reasonable accommodation for their educational needs. In other words, what is important is that learners with albinism must be provided with reasonable accommodation to ensure that they are able to enjoy uninhibited access to the right to a basic education.

The DBE remains committed to ensuring that all learners, especially those from vulnerable sections of society, enjoy uninhibited access to the right to a basic education.

## Provincial Round-up

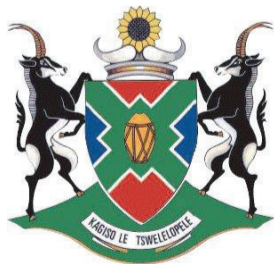
### Northern Cape Province



**Northern Cape  
Department of Education**

Northern Cape Education MEC, Mr McCollen Jack, welcomed the Carnarvon High School Robotics Team at the Kimberley Airport on 5 June 2019. The Robotics Team represented South Africa in Montevideo, Uruguay during the International First Lego League, following their outstanding achievement in the national competition that took place on 30 November 2018. This was part of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) programme that provides the necessary support and assistance to learners interested in pursuing careers related to Mathematics and Physical Science. “This is the start of your journey to the promising future that awaits you. Through sheer hard work and commitment, anything is possible. The Province will provide every child with the best possible opportunity to succeed in life, and we will do everything in our power to address both the participation rate and underperformance in Mathematics and Physical Science by providing strong foundational skills. We will ensure that we break the stigma around these subjects, increase the participation rate and showcase these subjects as fun,” said MEC Jack.

### North West Province



**education**

Lefapha la Thuto  
Onderwys Departement  
Department of Education  
**NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

North West Education MEC, Mrs Wendy Matsemela, has recently launched the *Ngwana Setjo/Everything Around the Learner Campaign*. This Campaign acknowledges that every learner is a national asset and places him/her at the centre of all education-related matters. Another focus will be on obtaining good academic results during the 2019 National Senior Certificate (NSC) Examinations. A recovery plan is underway to put interventions in place to improve the Province’s overall NSC results, whilst reducing learner absence due the impact of damaging community protests. This week, learning and teaching was disrupted due to service delivery related protests in the Ratlou Municipality areas of the North West Province.

## Limpopo Province



**LIMPOPO**  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

Basic Education Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga, expressed her concerns about the ongoing school disruptions taking place in several part of the country. In Zebediela, learning and teaching has been disrupted by protesting community members allegedly aggrieved by the lack of basic services, mainly a tarred road, connecting the village to the main road. “We are extremely concerned because the candidates who are currently writing the matric examinations are those who previously did not perform well and now wish to upgrade their marks. Those who were out of school without a matric certificate are having their lives disrupted yet again through no fault of their own,” Minister Motshekga said, adding that she will work with provinces to ensure that education services are restored in the areas affected by the protests.

## KwaZulu-Natal Province



**education**

Department:

Education

**PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL**

In the KwaZulu-Natal Province protesting members of the community have also prevented candidates from writing the NSC and Senior Certificate (SC) examinations in various parts of the province, including the Ugu and Mgungundlovu Districts. Basic Education Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga is in the process of making contact with MECs of education in the affected provinces to find an immediate solution and implement a recovery plan for the learners to catch up on lost time to be able to write their mid-year examinations. “These learners are missing out on critical examinations which are key towards their final NSC Examinations later this year. It saddens me that their future is compromised by service delivery issues that have nothing or very little to do with our learners. We appeal to communities to assist us by not allowing education and our children’s future to be jeopardised by protests,” the Minister said.

## Western Cape Province



**Western Cape  
Government**

Education

**BETTER TOGETHER.**

The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) has recently advertised the position of a Chief Evaluator for the School Evaluations Authority (SEA). The purpose of the SEA is to support school improvement in the Western Cape Province. Its focus is on identifying factors that impact on performance in learning, safety, leadership and governance. The functions of the Chief Evaluator will be to ensure the delivery of evaluations of school performance, including judgments about quality; other findings and recommendations based on sound evidence; and to publish and disseminate clear and accessible school evaluation reports and information, including quality judgments and other findings and recommendations. The SEA will also ensure the efficient administration of the SEA and implement, review, and improve the school evaluation policy, model and tools in line with provincial frameworks and international best practice.

## Upcoming Events



- 15 – 16 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the North West Province
- 17 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the Northern Cape Province
- 18 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the Northern Cape Province
- 19 June 2019: The launch of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) International Report
- 19 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the KwaZulu-Natal Province
- 19 – 20 June 2019: The Fifth Child and Youth Finance International Summit, which will be taking place under the banner of “Economic Citizenship and Employment: A Future for All”, will be hosted in Johannesburg, Gauteng Province
- 20 June 2019: State of the Nation Address in Parliament, Cape Town, Western Cape Province
- 20 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the Western Cape Province
- 23 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the Gauteng Province
- 25 – 28 June 2019: The annual ABC Motsepe SASCE will be taking place at the Rhema Bible Church in Randburg, Gauteng Province
- 26 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the Limpopo Province
- 27 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the Free State Province
- 28 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the Mpumalanga Province
- 29 June 2019: Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli, will be embarking on Provincial Engagement visits to oversee Winter Classes in the Eastern Cape Province
- 02 July 2019: The launch of the Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) Country Report
- 11 – 12 July 2019: Minister Motshekga will be meeting with District Directors at the DBE Building in Pretoria, Gauteng Province
- 18 July 2019: Nelson Mandela International Day will be celebrated globally

**Enquiries:**

**Editor: Mr Elijah Mhlanga**

**Chief Director: Media Liaison - National and Provincial Communication**

**Tel. No: 012 357 3773**