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Lefapha la Thuto la Bokone Bophirima Noordwes Departement van Onderwys North West Department of Education **NORTH WEST PROVINCE**



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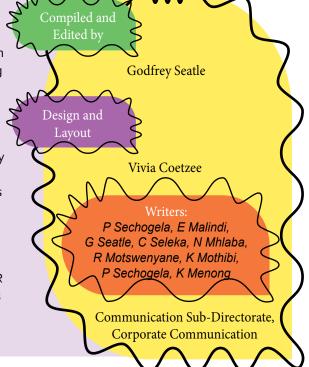
By: Gershwin Chuenyane



NWPED, like the rest of the country, had to cope with COVID-19 Pandemic challenges in 2020. Teachers were in no way immune to these challenges, a radical adaptation to the new normal and start swimming along the tide with success. Indeed, together we worked in solidarity with teachers during these testing times.

AS frontline workers, they returned to class to teach the African Child amidst the safety uncertainties. Stakeholders' have appreciated our teachers as bridges for children's tomorrow.

We take this opportune time to pay tribute to the TEACHER during the Teachers' Month as a token of appreciating these GIANTS.



MEC MATSEMELA **MONITORS THE FIRST DAY OF GRADE 12 EXAMINATIONS**

By: Elias Malindi

The North West Department of Education MEC, Mmaphefo Matsemela participated in monitoring of the first day of writing the Grade 12 examinations by visiting Sejankabo Secondary school in Mocoseng Village, Mafikeng.

MEC Matsemela's monitoring proceeded to Tetlano Secondary in Motlhabeng Village, Mmabatho High in Unit 2 and Mafikeng Secondary in Mafikeng. During her visit to schools she observed how learners were coping with the examinations.

In this year's Grade 12 examinations learners were compelled to write while wearing masks. The number of learners in the examinations classrooms were reduced to comply with the Covid - 19 regulations.

MEC Matsemela was impressed by the first day of the Grade 12 examinations.

"I am truly impressed on how this day unfolded, The determination and commitment displayed by our learners on their first day was amazing. In all the school's I visited, I found them writing and answering

all questions as instructed by their teachers. I am optimistic that this examinations will be a success. I also want to thank our teachers for their continued passion and commitment to their work", said MEC Matsemela.

MEC Matsemela also pleaded with parents to continue to support learners during this critical time.

"I further want to request all parents of learners who are writing now to continue to support learners. Parents should monitor the preparations of the learners. I am confident that this Class of 2020 will make our province proud again", said MEC Matsemela.

Kamogelo Metsi a 19-year-old Grade 12 learner at Sejankabo Secondary school indicated that he has a study group with his classmates, wherein they spend 2 hours daily assisting each other. He says he want to obtain good marks at the end of the year.

Keotspile Moatlhodi an 18-year-old Grade 12 learner also from Sejankabo Secondary school says she wants more marks than those she obtained during the year. "Next year I want to obtain a Bachelors certificate with 7 distinctions. I want to study law at the University of Cape Town. Now I am ready to claim my future, I can't wait", said Moatlhodi.

In the morning learners started writing with English First Additional Language and at 14:00 closed with English Home Language First Paper.



We belive in you!



North West Education MEC Mmaphefo Matsemela sends good wishes to all her class of 2020 candidates just few hours before they sit for their final examinations as they started writing their first paper on Thursday, 05 November 2020.

MEC MATSEMELA SENDS GOOD WISHES TO THE CLASS OF 2020

By: Elias Malindi

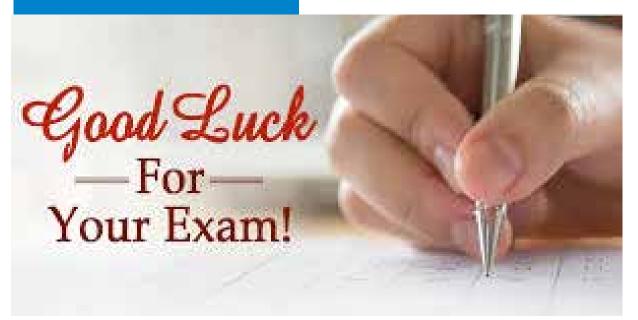
About 38 299 candidates in the North West are registered for the much anticipated exams.

MEC Matsemela says despite the difficult year it has been, she's hopeful thaf the 2020 cohort will come out victorious.

"It has been a tumultuous year globally and more especially to you the class of 2020 and above all else you have displayed tenacity in making this year a success. You spent almost 13 years in our schools and now it is a time to move to the higher education. Your future is calling and missing you a lot.

"We believe in you. We're behind you, cheering you on to the finish line. Give it everything you've got – you're nearly there – and know that whatever happens next, you've got what it takes for an amazing life. Your final grades are the gateway to the bright future ahead of you.

All the best!", Matsemela echoed.





"Working in solidarity with teachers during the Covid 19 Pandemic"

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MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

The outbreak of the novel Coronavirus had devastating effects on the education sector. Above all, it threatened the existence of the 2020 academic year. Schools had to close for a longer period than usual as part of the drastic precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the virus. Efforts to reopen schools were not easy. Parents, teachers and learners were gripped by Covid-19 induced uncertainties, fears and anxieties.

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TO ALL TEACHERS ON WORLD TEACHERS MONTH

By: Godfrey Seatle

Eventually schools were reopened under the Covid-19 Disaster Management Context. This October month, the Department salutes teachers as stalwarts for working in solidarity in salvaging the 2020 academic year by weathering the Covid-19 storm and ensuring that schooling returns to normal amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

May God continue to bless you and your families and keep you safe from the pandemic.

Ms MB Kamanyane the Principal of Rankelenyane Primary School, together with K Ncube & O Letsoko, learners who represented NWP during WTM celebrations

> Noordwes Departement van Onderwys North West Department of Education NORTH WEST PROVINCE

PONELOPELE

Go fitlhelela

Ms CK Pilane from Mafenya Primary School (Bojanala), previous NTA Winner who participated in the WTM pannel discussion





SG ASSESSING THE STATE OF CURRICULUM READINESS IN THE PROVINCE

The SG' s plan to meet with Curriculum management confirms that curriculum staff are very critical component of service delivery in the department.

The SG s engagement was mainly based on assessing the state of Curriculum in the entire sector of education in the North West.

The roadshow started on the 14 October 2020, at Dr Kenneth Kaunda District at Technical High School, and moved to Bojanala on the 15 & 16, at Brits and Sunrise View Secondary consecutively. The SG also visited Dr Ruth Mompati on 22 October 2020 at MM Sebitloane Special School and Ngaka Modiri Molema District on 23 October 2020 at Sol Plaatjie Sec School. This assessment took place few weeks before the starting of the final examination for Matric class of 2020.

Some of the key issues that were discussed in the meeting are strategies to improve learner performance both in the GET and FET band, Reading support systems, Subject Improvement Plans, Curriculum coverage tools and Learner Performance by tracking learner performance for Grades 10 and 11 as far back as 2018.

The Superintendent General's meetings are also

Rustenburg: The Superintendent General(SG) for NW Department of Education, Mrs Stephinah Semaswe has embarked on a series of meetings across the Province to meet with Curriculum Management and Delivery personnel. By: Godfrey Seatle

targeted at measuring the recovery plans set to address lost time due to Covid-19 and the actual state of readiness and final preparations for the 38299 Matriculants who registered for 2020 academic year.

y The SG's effort to assess and measure performance from district to district also help the department to check its performance against the targeted pass rate

of 88% for 2020 school year.

The Superintendent General was joined by Deputy Director Generals, Dr Mvula and Mr Prince Masilo, the Chief Director, Ms Pauline Mokhutle, Directors lead by the Acting District Director, Ms Motsei Paledi, Circuit Managers, Subject Advisors, Assessment Coordinators and Departmental Officials.





NORTH WEST EDUCATION PRAYING FOR THE CLASS OF 2020 AND SIGNING OF PLEDGE By: Nonkululeko Mhlaba

The North West Department of Education hosted the class of 2020 (Grade 12) Pledge signing and Provincial Prayer for the upcoming examinations. The event that consisted of 100 people was held on the 2nd of November at Stelland Primary School in Vryburg, Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati. The event was graced by honourable Premier, Professor Job Mokgoro, honourable MEC for Education, Ms Mmaphefo Matsemela, DDGs, SMT, Mayor of Naledi, Members of Faith-Based Organisation (priest, pastors and women of prayers), principals, Councillor, officials and learners.

The purpose of the day as outlined by the North West Education MEC, Hon Mmaphefo Matsemela was to pray for the grade 12s in their final examinations during this difficult time of Covid- 19. Learners were also made to sign a pledge to commit that they will adhere in upholding the principles of honesty and integrity and report any form of wrongdoing during the examinations.

The MEC encouraged the Grade 12 learners to remain cool and wear off examinations jitters "As a parent who once walked this road and sat for examinations I want to give pointers to remain cool throughout examinations. It may seem horrific and daunting prospect to have to sit for the examinations of this magnitude but you can do it. There's no need to panic or worry, learners have just to do what their teachers taught them", said MEC Matsemela.

North West Premier, Prof Job Mokgoro in his keynote address congratulated the class of 2020 despite the difficulties presented to them by the pandemic. Furthermore, he described the year 2020 as a true character test for matriculants due to the Covd-19 pandemic and believes they will prevail and come out victorious in their final examinations. If you continue to read hard, listen to your teachers and obey the rules of covid 19 you will take the North West Province to a higher level, said the Premier. In closing, he thanked all the stakeholders, principals, educators and parents that contributed to the success of learners in their difficult times.

The intercessory of Prayers were led by Reverend Tsabeng, praying for incident/accident-free examinations, violence, substance abuse and safety in our schools. The prayer is meant to help with the smooth sailing and free coronavirus examination. The Religious leaders entrenched their commitment of working together with schools during the examinations period.





4IR ESCORDET TO NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BY MEC MATSEMELA

By: Constance Seleka

The North West Department of Education quested new ways of bringing the classrooms closer to learners through a digital program called "Dial a Tutor" which was launched on the 5th of August 2020 at Onkabetse-Thuto Secondary school (Setlagole village).

The launch was graced by the presence of the Superintendent General, Ms Stephinah Semaswe, DDG, Dr Shadrack Mvula, Chief Director, Ms Pauline Mokhutle, Kgosi Lucky Gontse, Directors, Leaners and department officials.

Dial-a-Tutor programme is a contact solution of calling a toll free number which aims to provide all high school learners from Grade 8 - 12 across the province with an opportunity to interact with subject specialists to tutor them in their different areas in their subjects.

Percy Modillane one of the teachers from Onkabetse -Thuto who is participating in the programme as a Subject Specialist for Business Economics highlighted that the programme has given learners an opportunity to raise questions without fear of their classmates. He further highlighted that teachers as well are beneficiaries of the programme because they also call to request materials for their subjects.

MEC Matsemela mentioned that this programme came at the right time where things are done differently; in the entire system of education and is in line with the fourth industrial revolution(4IR). Furthermore, the MEC promised that all Matric learners in the province will be provided with psycho-social support in October, to prepare them for the final examination. In her closing remarks, the MEC encouraged learners to utilise the Dial-A-Tutor programme effectively and not to abuse it.

The number for learners to use to DIAL-A- TUTOR is 0800 383 383 and can be called between Monday to Friday at 07:00 (Morning) to 20:00 (evening).





WHAT IS ASSET MANAGEMENT

Addition:

These are new asset that are newly bought in the department e.g. new furniture or IT equipment.

Disposals

all asset that are rendered through disposal asset are donated to different schools By: Nonkululeko Mhlaba

The North West Department of Education Asset Management plays a vital role in the department, it manages, controls and safeguards all asset of the department. The asset management section is divided into four categories namely Addition, Barcoding, Losses and Disposal.



Losses

stolen, damaged assets of the department

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ASSET MANAGAMENT

- Managed to get approval from the administrator for Bojanala, Dr RSM, Ngaka Modiri to donate asset (IT equipment and furniture) to Schools.
- From April to October there was 9.2 million additions (Major Asset).
- 1.7 milliion assets were registered in the financial year.

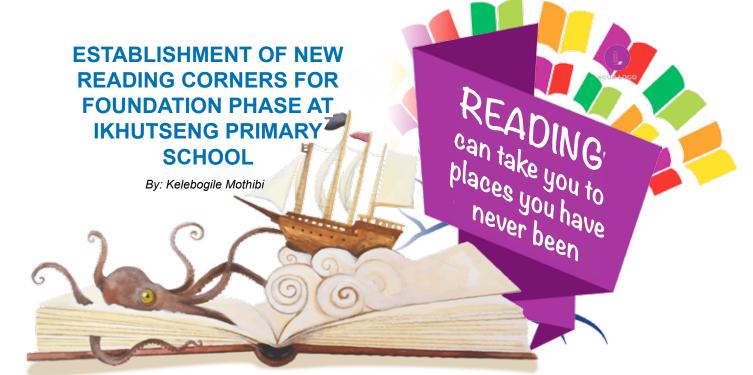
CHALLENGES OF THE ASSET MANAGEMENT

- Most of the officials do not report damaged assets, or lost asset which leads to miscalcula tions and delays the disposal process.
- In terms of barcoding, it takes a long time to barcode as some officials and subject advisors are not reachable at their work station, it makes the barcoding system take longer.
- Disposal- submission to the administrator (for approval to dispose) takes time and leads to assets being damaged through the process.

WHAT PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ASSEST

Officials need to understand that asset should be a fundamental component of the growth process more especially in the 4th industrial revolution with an in depth record of asset location and condition. A comprehensive asset audit using bar-code provides a complete picture of the asset state and location.





Standard Bank making use of its own employee volunteer programme as well as service provider RAK Events has been implementing school libraries and reading corners at primary school across the country.

The objective of the programme is to cultivate the love of reading amongst the pupils in the founda-

A big thank you to Standard Bank!!!

tion phase with the aim of improving the level of literacy in those grades.

Ikhutseng Primary School from Vaaltyn village in Greater Taung Local Municipality was identified from Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mmpati District to avail foundation phase classrooms in which library corners were established.



Reading corner: painting wall murals and cushions for the children to sit on, painted the unique shelves and sorted the new exciting consignment of books and put them on shelves with assistance from the school staff members, District officials and EPWP



Edu-news@North West, November 2020



THE READING SUPPORT PROJECT FOR – Foundation Phase Teachers

The Reading Support Project Coaches trained teachers from Quintile 1 to 3 selected schools at six different venues within the two districts.

By: Patricia Sechogela

Two districts (Ngaka Modiri Molema and Dr Kenneth Kaunda) of the department of Education, for the first time after the easing of Covid - 19 regulations, held their face to face training of Foundation Phase teachers. The Reading Support Project Coaches trained teachers from Quintile 1 to 3 selected schools at six different venues within the two districts. R.S.P. is a reading strategy project that was funded by the United States Agency for International Development in Southern Africa.





This project was implemented in partnership with leading literacy organizations, that is: Molteno Language Institute, the South African Institute for Distance Education (SAIDE), Oxford University Press of South Africa and Voluntary Services Oversees (VSO) with the aim to improve Foundation Phase Learners' reading skills in African Home Languages as well as English as a First Additional Language that is used as the Language of Learning and Teaching from grade 4 (LOLT). The main objective is to improve reading comprehension at an early age within our districts. Teachers are further assisted by coaches during their school visits after training has taken place.





The role of legal services in the department is to represent and defends the company interests and its employees in courts and government bodies. It ensures legal compliance throughout the department. Legal services provide legal support and guidance to the entire department of education which includes the four districts, MEC'S office, HOD's office, the administrator and other strategic offices within the department. Schools are equally assisted when there are cases instituted against them.



Achievements accomplished by legal services is that they have managed to reduces the contingence liability (the amount of money that the department is being sued for) that the department was setting on. They recently won one of the biggest cases they had, were the department was sued for hundred and eighty-four million, the case was concluded in the favour of the department.

Legal unit is experiencing too many challenges in the department, cases are brought late to the Unit with lots of impairment, Incomplete documents and lastly shortage of staff, the unit have only 3 qualified personnel to represent the entire north west department, however with the support they receive from the office of the administrator they are doing well.

Legal services directorate will like to assist the department with any legal challenge they come across and urge people to submit all the documents in time.



The key performance services provided by legal services are as follows, legislation services, policy and compliance. The legal service unit faces a great number of different legal matters. These matters include: litigation, contracts, policy and customer claims against the company for product damages and defects.







TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT SECTION

By:Refiloe Motswenyane

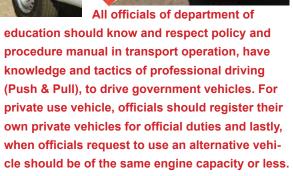
Department of Education Transport Management is a directorate that deals with transportation operations and allocation of vehicles for official duties within the Department. This includes other principles such as transport management environment, transportation policy and management and lastly demand and supply requirements.



Importand to know

Due to a shortage of vehicles, transport section managed to purchase 38 Vehicles in the last financial year 2019/20, and also recover 2 out of 3 vehicles which were stolen. The Department of Education in Transport Management has a challenge of vehicles which are attached when there are legal implications for legal debts in the Department. In addition,

challenges that affect the department negatively is accidents, traffic fines, when employees use state vehicle and returned it uncleaned, deviation from road and shortage of pull vehicles.





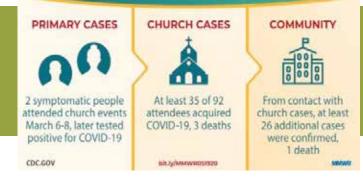




COVID-19 AIRBONE TRANSMISSION

By: Kenalemang Menong

COVID-19 SPREADS EASILY IN GROUP GATHERINGS



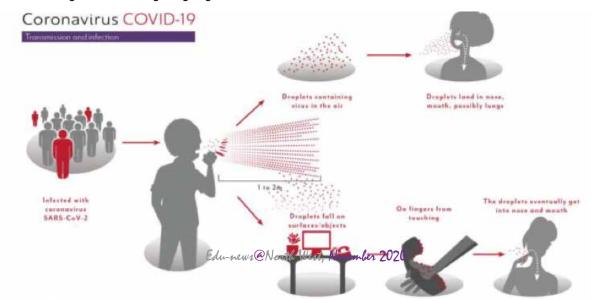
The following report from WHO will clarifying the facts "Health care settings: where symptomatic COVID-19 patients were cared for, but where aerosol generating procedures were not performed, the presence of SARS CoV-2 RNA in air samples was reported,

- Other similar investigations in both health care and non-health care settings found no presence of SARS-CoV-2 RNA; no studies have found viable virus in air samples."
- Within samples where SARS-CoV-2 RNA was found: The quantity of RNA detected was in extremely low numbers in large volumes of air
- One study that found SARS-CoV-2 RNA in air samples reported inability to identify viable virus.
- The detection of RNA (RT-PCR)-based assays is not necessarily indicative of replication- and infection-competent (viable) virus that could be transmissible and capable of causing infection (Bullard J et al, CID 2020)

No airborne transmission has been recorded except during aerosol generating procedures (AGP) in close proximity. From the WHO scientific brief (29th March, 2020) - In an analysis of 75,465 COVID-19 cases in China, airborne transmission was not reported. When aerosols are generated during coughing and sneezThe latest development on whether SARS CoV-2 RNA is transmitted via airborne or not was inconclusive

ing, the larger size droplets fall on surfaces surrounding the source person depending on the mass of the droplets (Fig 1). Airborne transmission requires air currents for movement of lighter particles such as Mycobacterium tuberculosis, measles and chickenpox. This has not been found in COVID-19 transmission yet.

- Small droplets, (0.01- 10 µm diameter), during speech and coughing, contain viral particles, which can remain viable and infectious in aerosols for 3 h.
- The droplets can be transmitted either:
- directly by entering the airway through the air (aerosols), or
- Indirectly by contact transfer via contaminated hands.
- Dose–response relationship of SARS-CoV-2 infection is still unclear, especially with respect to aerosol transmission of the virus.
- Aerosols containing a small concentration of virus in poorly ventilated spaces, combined with low humidity and high temperature, might result in an infectious dose over time.
- Ventilated room, after 30 s the number of droplets had halved,
- In a poorly ventilated room, the number of droplets was halved in 4 min.
- Non ventilation this took about 5 9 min





North West Department of Education tighten their partnership with MTN SA Foundation by welcoming them for the second time in Mampho Secondary School on 23 September 2020. The school was sealed with donation of Huawei Matepad T8 tablets by MTN to witness the prevailing and current reality of the fourth industrial revolution. The event took place at Migdol in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati.

The purpose of the handing over of the devices was to assist both educators and learners to catch up with the delivery of the curriculum content for the 2020 academic year.





MAMPHO SECONDARY SCHOOL RECEIVED DONATION OF HUAWEI MATEPAD TABLETS By:Refiloe Motswenyane

The occasion was graced by the honourable MEC for North West Education Department, Mmaphefo Matsemela, DDG Dr Mvula, District Director Ms Mojakhumo Dithejane, MTN General Manager Ms Kusile Mtunzi-Hairwadzi, Ms Mosii, Councillor Gotsilekgoso Batsi, Dr Lekalakala, Dr Tlhabanelo, Mr Malindi and Ms Sesing. In extenuating the impact of Covid -19 pandemic, MTN SA Foundation has partnered with Huawei to supply Hundred and twenty-six (126) Huawei Matepad T8 (2GB+32GB) Tablets for grade 10, 11 and 12 learners who enrolled for Computer Applied Technology (CAT), 200 mask and 50 bicycle for learners of Mampho Secondary School.

In her key note address, MEC Maphefo Matsemela expressed her gratitude towards MTN SA Foundation for equipped multimedia centers in three schools of Migdol known as Mampho, Obang and Reabetswe secondary schools. MEC told the learners that department is going to implement curriculum through ICT starting 2021 and Fourth industrial revolution should be our first priority. The main aim of the partnership with the department was to bring about socio-economic upliftment in the key areas of education and community development, said Ms Kusile Mtunzi-Hairwadzi of MTN SA Foundation General Manager, she further said that the initiative prepares the learners for the future and urged learners to take full advantage of the equipment supplied. "They have the opportunity to improve their ICT literacy and learn new skills, so that they can become more active in the fourth industrial revolution" she concluded.

Ms Dintwe Mpho on behalf of the learners was thankful that MTN SA Foundation were able to choose Mampho Secondary School that is located in a disadvantaged area. There is a negative stigma about growing up in a farm area as we did not see ourselves achieving anything beyond grade 12 and most of us do not afford lot of things, like tablets, phones and Laptop.





The North West Department of Education, MEC Mmaphefo Matsemela accompanied by the **Rustenburg** Local **Municipality** Executive **Mayor Cllr Mpho Khunou** handed over a newly built School to the SGB and the community of Boitekong in Rusteburg on the 1st of September 2020.

HANDOVER OF BOITEKONG **2** SECONDARY SCHOOL

By: Nonkululeko Mhlaba

In Outlying the purpose of the day the MEC Mmaphefo Matsemela indicated that the Population of Boitekong grows rapidly which causes an overflow in schools a conducive learning environment encourages better school attendance and better school attendances leads to excellent results.

She concluded by handing the school to the SGB as custodian of the Community.



The new schools entailed new facilities such as ablution blocks each with toilet, new classrooms, a fully furnished kitchen for the NSNP programme and a laboratory. The school starts from Grade 8,9 and 10, Grade 11 will be added next year 2021 and Grade 12 in 2022 along with the sports facilities and hall.



In a classic example of a public, private partnership Siyanda Bakgatla Platinum Mine donated and handed over school ablution facilities to the North West Department of Education.



The handover of the school ablution facilities took place at Moruleng on Friday, 06 November 2020 in Moses Kotane Local Municipality.

SIYANDA BAKGATLA PLATINUM MINE DONATES ABLUTION FACILITIES TO THE DEPARTMENT

By: Constance Seleka



The Siyanda Bakgatla Platinum Mine responded to the government's request and objective of elimination of pit toilets in all schools by donating toilets to 4 schools at the Bojanala district as a form of contributing to the community. SBPM spent R7,9 million in building and upgrading the ablution facilities at Makuka Primary in (Sefikile village), Mokgalwana Primary in (Mokgalaneng village), Sedibelo Secondary in (Moruleng village) and Nkobong secondary in Kraalhoek village. On her keynote address, MEC Mmaphefo Matsemela said that education is a societal matter and urged communities and learners to take part in ensuring that schools are well maintained. She expressed her gratitude to SBPM for donating the toilets by telling them they have dignified the department through schools and they have met one of the 10 point priorities which is infrastructure beyond sanitation.



The Superintendent General Ms Stephinah Semaswe, Deputy Director General Mr Prince Masilo, Chief Director for District Coordination Ms Pauline Mokhutle, Acting District Director of Bojanala Ms Motsei Paledi and other department officials accompanied the MEC to the handover.





In November of 2020, the Department of Education under the leadership of MEC, Mmaphefo Matsemela hosted a sod-turning ceremony for the construction of a school in Huhudi Extension 25, Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati.

SOD TURNING IN EXTENSION 5 HUHUDI By: Refiloe Motswenyane

MEC, Mmaphefo Matsemela was accompanied by Premier of North West, Professor Job Mokgoro to give assurance to the Huhudi community regarding the new school project. The new settlement in Vryburg didn't have a school and learners were subjected to attend school in the old location by means of scholar transport.

In her keynote address, MEC Mmaphefo Matsemela said the enormous school project for the Community of Huhudi Extension 25 to the value of R80 763 027.60 is going to change this community forever by creating a job opportunity and improving the life and future of Extension 25 children to be bright and



enhanced. Furthermore, we should guard against any form of vandalism once this school is completed" said MEC

The MEC indicated that the school will consist of 24 classrooms, administration block, school hall, dining and nutrition block, Grade R block, library and computer lab, change rooms, tuck shop, security house, and security fence. The building of this new school will bring positive influence to the community, we are looking forward to working with the department and contractors for the benefit of our community and beyond" said the councillor of extension 5. The school project duration is only 18 months and the name of the contractor is Persevcon.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT FOR GLOBAL ACTION!

By: Nonkululeko Mhlaba

The North West Department of Education in the office of strategic and governance hosted the young employees and interns workshop on emotional intelligence and curbing Gender Based Violence. The knowledge sharing exercise took place at Seasons Conference and wedding venue in Rooigrond-Mafikeng on Friday, 16 October 2020.



The purpose of the day was to teach young employees about Emotional Intelligence, Sexual harassment and Gender Based Violence and to equip them with skills that they may need in the workplace and in future. Adv. Ngwako from National Prosecuting Authority shared information about how to deal with Gender Based Violence, to discuss causes, dangers and the dynamics. Mamohapi Diseko ,the Acting Provincial Manager from the North West Commission for Gender Equality spoke on the issues of sexual harassment in the workplace and the right processes to go through when reporting sexual harassment.

Mr Sello Boshomane from the North West University (Department of Psychology) gave a presentation on how Emotional Intelligence can help the Millennials \ young employees in their everyday life and how it can also contribute to their production in the workplace.





















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