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To: News Editors

Mpumalanga ready to manage the writing of the 2014 National Senior Certificate (Grade 12) Examination

The Mpumalanga Department of Education is ready to manage the 2014 examinations of 54 002 Grade 12 full time and part time learners which is going to start on 27 October until 02 December.

The Department intends to improve the results from **77.6%** obtained in 2013 by **10%** to **87.6%** in 2014 and to ensure that the number of schools which obtained results below 60% are radically reduced.

Any school that will perform below **60%** will be regarded as dysfunctional and will be expected to provide full account for such a performance when schools re-open in 2015.

At the same time, the Department is aiming at increasing the number of learners who obtain university entrance as well as the pass rate in Mathematics and Physical Science.

All systems are already in place and the Department takes pride in the fact that it enters half a decade of an incident free and credible grade 12 examination process. This is attributed to a collaborative effort between departmental officials and other institutions within the security cluster.

Areas that give the Department sleepless nights are the so called "Community Service Delivery Protests' which in most instances are capable of disrupting classes and therefore rob learners of time to prepare for the examinations. In this regard, the Department is appealing to all communities to appreciate that final examinations are about to start and therefore their support to schools and their children is called upon at all times.

The second area of concern relates to the heavy rains that may take place during examination time. The Plan has already been developed by the security cluster to work closer with the SANDF should the need arise.

The MEC for Education, Mrs Reginah Mhaule has already sent her profound wishes to all learners who will be sitting for their final examinations.







"I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt best wishes to all learners who are going to write the grade 12 final examinations this year and I will appreciate it if they can use the time at their disposal to stay focused in their studies, take advantage of the programmes such a Radio lessons, the dial a tutor, read the resource material that were distributed to their schools and refrain from any activity that may divert their attention," she said.

All Grade 12 Learners will be expected to sign a pledge on **17 October 2014** as their commitment to conduct themselves in keeping to the code of conduct of the examinations.

The Grade 12 results for Mpumalanga Province will be announced on **06 January 2015** at Emjindini Town Hall at Umjindi Local Municipality (Barberton) at **09H00**.

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Issued by the Mpumalanga Department of Education For inquires contact Mr Jasper Zwane at 083 743 1804 or <u>j.zwane@education.mpu.gov.za</u>





