



TO : NEWS EDITORS
FROM : MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DATE : 05 OCTOBER 2017
SUBJECT : MEC MHAULE APPLAUDS TEACHERS

The Department extends its appreciation to all teachers for their dedication and commitment on this day and beyond.

Teachers are the shining light of every society for they always rise above the expected norm to mentor, inspire and bring hope to learners under trying circumstances.

"We should always salute teachers because without them and their hard work, the world was going to be a dark place where ignorance, fear and poverty would reign supreme. Happy Teachers Day" said MEC Mhaule.

The Department will convene the National Teaching Awards on **20 October 2017** at the Mbombela Stadium.

Furthermore, the Department will honor one of the outstanding teachers who was a mathematics teacher, the late OR Tambo by naming the Mathematics, Science and Technology Academy in his honor.

On his birthday (i.e. 27 October 2017) the Academy will be unveiled to be known as the; **OR Tambo Mathematics, Science and Technology Academy.**

"What is more even significant about this day is that the launch of this Academy takes place during the birth month of the late struggle stalwart, OR Tambo who would have turned 100 years old.

Oliver Tambo was passionate about education especially Maths and Science, he himself having graduated with a B.Sc. degree in Physics and Maths.

For more than ten years OR Tambo made an enduring impact as a teacher on his students at St Peters.

Hundreds of his students appreciated his distinctive, interactive and encouraging style of teaching, using methods, which were well ahead of their time. O.R. inspired many to take up teaching too.

OR Tambo's character, mannerism and personality is one thing that all of us, South Africans, young and old should be mindful of, uphold and ensure that our communities embrace.

Today, in his honor, we are unveiling the Reception Area of the Academy and we are making plans that on the 27th of October 2017 on his birthday this Academy will from that day onwards be known as OR Tambo Mathematics, Science and Technology Academy.

We have to do this because OR Tambo's course resonates with our quest to promote the intake and pass rate of Mathematics and Physical Science.

Indeed, this will be an inspiration to many who long to be professionals within the sciences field." MEC Reginah Mhaule at the occasion of the launch of the Mathematics, Science and technology Academy on 03 October 2017.

The Department further makes a clarion call to communities to continue to create an enabling environment for teaching and learning to take place at all times.

In addition, the Department is encouraging learners to make teaching as their career of first choice.

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Issued by the Mpumalanga Department of Education

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