

Speech to be Made by the MEC for Education, Mrs. Reginah Mhaule at the Event of the Signing of Examination Pledge by Grade 12 learners on 16 October 2015

Programme Director and Head of Department, Mrs. Mahlasedi Mhlabane

Executive Mayor of Bushbuckridge, Cllr. Renius Khumalo

Chairperson of the SGB, Mr. S Mgiba

Director for Public Examinations, Mr. Chukudu Manyabeane

Bohlabela District Director, Ms. Lorraine Goba

Members of Senior Management

Members of the District Management Team

Circuit Manager

Acting Principal Mrs. MP Khoza

Teachers

Learners

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Sanibonani

I am very pleased to be with you at this crucial time of your schooling year.

The countdown has long begun and we are left with 10 days to the commencement of the 2015 National Senior Certificate Examinations.

What excites me even more is that Orhovelani has been led by one of the most renowned man in the nation and that your school has a rich history in the production of professionals that have contributed in the growth and development of our communities over the years.

There is nothing that excites me more than visiting a good and performing school with well-behaved learners. I must say that such schools are an inspiration and we are of the view that your school is one of the ideal schools we wish for.

We have come to your school and municipality in particular because we want to encourage you to excell and make a mark in the 2015 National Senior Certificate Examination as your school seem to have stagnated on the **70-79** percentage point for the past four years with the exception of 2013 where you recorded a **91.6** percent pass rate.

This is in a way our call to arms, if I may use the cliché, for you to fold on your sleeves and work towards your bright future marked by an achievement of 100 percent pass that we envisage our schools to obtain.

We have faith in your abilities to reach that milestone thus we are here to offer our support and well wishes.

Bohlabela District under the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality has pulled its weight for the past five years culminating to being crowned the most improved district in the country and we are of the view that this trend will carry on even beyond as there is still room for improvement.

Teachers have been there to equip our learners with the necessary information in preparation for these examinations and have already advised learners on how to tackle the examinations and we wish to thank them for that.

We humbly request all our communities to create an enabling environment and to provide the required support in order for our children to fulfil their dreams and aspirations after secondary schooling.

Members of the community in general, Parents, Community and Religious Leaders are encouraged to motivate their children and give them the necessary time and space to study until the last day of the examinations.

Next week the Department in collaboration with the Moral Regeneration movement will convene prayer sessions for the smooth running of this examination.

Learners

There is no time to lose or waste now, use your time wisely and take advantage of every available resource and opportunity to maximise your knowledge and abilities.

Continue to respect and listen to your teachers and ask them to assist concerning subject and content material you need clarity on.

As a province and a department we have our own expectations of you in the writing of the 2015 Grade 12 examinations.

As much as we expect you to do well, we also expect you to conduct yourselves in a manner that is befitting before, during and after the examinations.

As a department we will continue to provide the support programmes such as the Dial A Tutor programme, radio lessons, weekend classes and the DSTV Channel 319 lessons.

By now you should have received your time tables and thus I believe that the rules applicable in the examination centres have already been explained to you.

You should all have acknowledged knowledge and acceptance of these rules and regulations as you have signed when receiving your timetables. As such I want to remind you that you cannot plead ignorance when irregularities on your part are uncovered.

I thus want to make an appeal to all of you to heed the rules and instructions applicable in writing of the NSC so that we can have a credible examination process.

Please desist from any act of dishonesty and misconduct so that you may not find yourselves on the wrong side of the law and thus compromise your future.

I want you to take note of this and heed the rules and regulations which are available at the back of your time tables.

We expect you to follow those rules to the letter and that is the main reason we are here. Our main goal is to re-enforce those rules and regulations by conscientising you to conduct yourselves with honesty and integrity through the signing of the National Senior Certificate Pledge.

This pledge serves as a contract of your conscience, for you not to falter but to adhere to the rules and regulations of the examinations. These rules and regulations so clearly stipulates that a violation of some sort will result in the disqualification of the candidate concerned.

We don't want that to happen and that is why we appeal to you through the pledge to heed the rules and regulations of the examinations. I wish all of you all the best with your examinations.

As I urge you to pay attention to the meaning of the pledge, let me call upon, **the President of the RCL; Rivoningo Mbambo and the Chairperson of Academic, Claude Mbamba** to read the pledge on your behalf.

Let me also request the other learners who are supposed to sign the pledge to also ascend the stage so that they can sign immediately after reading the pledge.

[\(Reading and Signing takes place\)](#)

Thank you my wonderful children I wish you well in your examinations and studies.

Ngiyabonga.