

**Remarks to be made by the MEC for Education, Mrs. Reginah Mhaule  
at the Occasion of the visit to Middleburg Muslim School on  
Wednesday, 13 January 2015**

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Programme Directors,

Chairperson and Members of the School Governing Bodies

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality Executive Mayor,

Principal

Circuit Manager,

2015 Provincial Top Learner

Teachers

Non- teaching staff

Parents

Departmental officials and

Learners

**Sanibonani,**

Let me take this opportunity to welcome all educators, non-teaching staff members and learners to the 2016 school year. I hope that you have come back from the holidays with an even greater passion to tackling the New Year.

### **Appreciation of the 2015 Grade 12 results**

I am very proud of the class of 2015, as it has achieved a **78.6%** pass rate, although this percentage resulted in a **0.4%** decline from the **79%** pass rate obtained in 2014, we still remain optimistic that the province is doing a great job in ensuring that our learners are prepared for their final examinations.

The decline also propels us to work in even harder and not detour our spirits in all the hard work put in. In the year 2015, the province was able to ensure that **43 229** of the **54 980** full time learners who wrote the 2015 Grade 12 examination have passed, which translate to **7 614** more learners passing compared to 2014, this is an achievement we need to also celebrate and commend.

Let me therefore, take this opportunity this opportunity and appreciate the class of 2015, they have made us very proud.

## **Appreciate the Municipality**

Let me congratulate the Nkangala district for obtaining 81.67% which is an improvement from the 78.92% obtained in 2014. I wish to commend Nkangala District for this 2.75% improvement. Well done.

The 2014 provincial top learner hails from the Steve Tshwete Municipality, a municipality that has received many accolades in the past.

In his January 8 statement, his Excellency, Mr. Gedleyihlekisa Zuma, awarded the ANC Annual Achievement Award, deemed the ZK Mathews Award, conferred on the best performing ANC municipality to Steve Tshwete Municipality

Surely these two achievements are not a coincidence but a reflection of the hard work and dedication to the people behind the name Steve Tshwete Municipality.

I have had the opportunity of being hosted by the municipality on different occasions, through these different interactions I have been in the receiving end of the warmth and dedication of the municipality. I thank you for your support and dedication.

## **Appreciate the School Principal and teachers**

I would like to extend my greatest appreciation to the principal, thank you for exercising great leadership skills; the performance of your learners is living proof that the school has a great leader and a great team which aims to generate learners who will contribute immensely in developing the economy of the province.

We congratulate you, as you are a shining example of excellence to the rest of our schools and we encourage you to continue to do so. The school is our source of pride and encouragement for us.

I would also like to appreciate the hard work that our educators put in order for our learners to achieve such accolades. Our educators play the role of guiding young minds to the pathways of success. We thank you for your tremendous contributions.

## **Address the Top Provincial learner**

Let me take this time to congratulate, Miss. Sumaiya Jeewa, the pride of our province. Our visit here is to celebrate the top learner achievement. You have proved to your peers that hard work surely pays off. You have made us very proud.

As the Mpumalanga Department of Education we are happy to confirm that you have also received a bursary for your University studies, we also hope that this will not be the end of your great achievements, but will be able to witness and share even greater accomplishments in the future.

Please continue with the good work and know that our support and well wishes are with you whenever you will be pursuing your tertiary education. Continue to make us proud.

## **Appreciate Imperial Toyota**

The contributions made by business add impetus on government efforts to Improve the lives of its citizens and to enhance service delivery.

It for this reason that we cherish any form of involvement and partnership we have with Imperial Toyota.

Mr. Desmond Bosch, we really appreciate your continuous support. The sponsorship of a brand new car still remains one of the greatest inspirations for learners to excel. We truly thank you for kindness, and we still remain certain that one of the driving forces towards learner performances is being afforded a chance to win themselves a car.

Once again, we really appreciate this sponsorship of great value, as this contribution by Imperial Toyota Nelspruit has become the highlight of the occasion of the announcement of Grade 12 results.

## **Conclusion**

As I conclude, let me once more welcome to the 2016 school year and we wish everyone all the best going forward.

Let us work together in ensuring our learners receive quality education.