

Speech to be Delivered by the Honourable MEC for Education, Mrs. Reginah Mhaule at the Occasion of the Official Handover Event of Mathibela High School on 15 February 2016 in Alexandria Trust, Bohlabela District

Programme Director and Head of Department, Mrs. Mahlasedi Mhlabane

Alexandria Trust Tribal Authority, **Kgosi LM Mokoena**

MEC for Public Works, Roads and Transport, **Ms. Dumisile Nhlengethwa**

MEC for Education, **Mrs. Reginah Mhaule**

Executive Mayor of Bushbuckridge Local Municipality, **Cllr. Renius Khumalo**

Chairperson of the SGB, **Mr. L Phiri**

Members of for the SGB

Principal of Mathibela High School, Mr. Makhubela

Former Principals of Mathibela High School

District Director , **Ms. Lorraine Goba**

Members of the District Management Team

Circuit Managers present

Departmental Officials

Parents

Teachers

Members of the Media

President of the Representative Council of Learners,

Learners,

Sanibonani

Indeed today is better than yesterday and now that we have such a beautiful school, tomorrow will be better than Today.

It gives me pleasure to be amongst you as we embark on one of the most important programme in our quest to deliver quality education to our people.

Your presence in this event is highly regarded by the Provincial Government as it is some form of acknowledgement that you take the education of your children seriously.

That you have chosen to be amongst us as we write the history books in bringing this state of the art school to the people of Alexandria Trust is an injection in the arm for the departments involved as well as the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality to be eager to deliver such services to other communities as well.

MATHIBELA HIGH SCHOOL

This school infrastructure comprises 18 classrooms, an Admin block, computer centre, science laboratory, school hall, kitchen, admission facilities and Sports facilities.

INFRASTRUCTURE IN BOHLABELA

There is a good story to tell in Bohlabela, Bushbuckridge with regards to the delivery of school infrastructure. As we handover this project, it gives me pleasure to inform you that we have already made a lot of strides in this municipality with regards to school infrastructure development. This is what we have covered;

TSAKANE SPECIAL SCHOOL

On 16 October 2014, we handed over Tsakane Special School in this local government. This project comprised of 10 Classrooms with supporting facilities, an Administration Block, Media Centre, School hall, 04 New Workshops, a Guard House, Fence, Water, Electricity, Garages and 2 Sports Grounds with 5 Toilets.

SAMUEL MHLANGA PRIMARY SCHOOL

The construction is near completion and the project comprises of 19 Classrooms, Grade R facilities, an Administration Block, a Laboratory, a Library, a Computer Centre, a Kitchen, a school hall, 28 Toilets, Three Sports Grounds and a car park.

MOSES MNISI SECONDARY SCHOOL

The project to substitute 28 unsafe classrooms commenced on 25 March 2014. There is also an administration block, a laboratory, a Library, a Computer Centre, a School Hall, a Kitchen, 3 Sports Grounds and a Car Park. This project is also near completion and the learners have taken occupation of the classroom as teaching and learning is progressing well.

MPISANA PRIMARY SCHOOL

The project to demolish existing classrooms to construct 12 classrooms commenced on 01 March 2014. There are also 18 Toilets, an Admin Block, a Library, a Kitchen, a School Hall, a Computer Centre, ramps and rails, 03 Sports Grounds and a Car Park.

CHUEU PRIMARY SCHOOL

The existing 14 classrooms were demolished to pave way for the construction of 10 classrooms and 15 toilets, an Administration Block,

Fence, Library, Grade R Centre with four Toilets and a Fence, 3 Sports Grounds and a car Park. The project was completed in May 2014.

SABEKA PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Construction of 12 Classrooms, Grade R facilities, an Administration Block, a Library, a Computer Centre, 20 Toilets, Fence, Electricity, a Kitchen, Gate Security House and a Car Park.

MBHANDULE SCHOOL

The project comprises of Phase 1 of the addition and alterations project to construct 08 Classrooms, an Administration Block, Toilets, Fencing, a Guard House, Water and Electricity.

FRANK MAGHINYANE SECONDARY SCHOOL

The school comprises of 16 classrooms with a maths and science laboratory, computer centre, library, 24 toilets, administration block, and three sporting facilities for soccer, netball and a tennis court

SCHOOL SANITATION PROJECTS

In addition to the project, the Department of Education in partnership with the Department of Public Works Roads and Transport has completed school sanitary projects in Lehlasedi and Godide secondary schools.

TAKE GOOD CARE OF THE SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE

Alexandria Trust and Lehuke Circuit will no longer be the same again because the children will wholly benefit from being at school and as such all such social ills which were in one way or the other bedeviling this community resulting from the challenge of not having decent schools will cease to exist.

The children in this community will enjoy learning in a way that learner drop out will be a thing of the past, there will be improved learner performance and levels of motivation will be enhanced.

I reiterate this plea and urge members of this community to make an effort to ensure that all children of school going age attend schools and learn every day.

At the same time we must ensure that the furniture and property of the school remains protected from vandalism and theft. The hand over function states that the community takes ownership of the school.

Please take good care of this school as if it your own property meant to benefit your children and their children. Allow the school to be beautiful and new all the time so that it could be preserved for the future generations.

CONCLUSION

As a conclusion, let me once more take this time to extend our appreciation to Kgosi Mokoena for the visionary leadership he has shown over the years as he has demonstrated his love for education in the interest of the people of Alexandria Trust and the whole province.

Thank you Kgosi.

Let me also acknowledge and appreciate my counterpart from Public Works, Roads and Transport, MEC Nhlengethwa. We have come a long way and having you on my side always give me the hope and comfort that we shall arrive at the destined place.

Thank you very much wathinta abafazi wathimnt' imbokodo.

Let me also appreciate all the people who made it possible that this project came to its conclusion, the contractors, consultants and structures within

this community, officials from the Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport.

We really appreciate your benevolence and selflessness. What you did here will always live in our mind and hearts and it is a legacy for us and our children.

South Africa is blessed to have personalities of your calibre, keep up the good work.

Let me say that the ball has been passed on to teachers and learners to ensure that learner performance is maximized to be on par with the standard of the school facility. We are expecting a 100 % performance from you and I hope that you will live up to this.

Ngiyabonga.