

**Speech by the MEC for Education, Bonakele Majuba at the  
Occasion of the Grade 12 Motivational Session in the  
Nkangala District with Siyabuswa and Siyabuswa 2 circuit  
on 23 May 2023**

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Programme Director

Member of the mayoral Council

Representatives from the House of Traditional Leadership

Ward Councilors

Chairperson of the SGB,

Members of the SGB

Pastor **Ali Mokoena**

Members of the Senior Management

Members of the District Management Team

Circuit Managers

School Principal

Principals of the Participating Schools

Leadership of the Representative Council of Learners

Officials of the Department of Education and

Learners

**Sanibonani,**

Thank you very much for honouring us with your presence. You being present here today gives us hope that you are part of a team that envisions Mpumalanga as a top achiever.

Programme Director, we are in the company of the ***Class of Dreams***. We deliberately call you the class of dreams because of what we expect from you.

We wish and expect that you can surpass all the previous National Senior Certificate Examination Results both qualitative and quantitative.

Nkangala District registered a **74.5%** pass rate which is an improvement of **5.5%** to the **72.2%** pass rate obtained in 2021.

We will not cease to thank all role-players of this District under the capable hands of Mr. Douglas Maja. Keep up the good work.

This therefore means we can only expect this class to take us above the **80%** mark.

District Director, we know that this is not too much to ask from your District, as you were part of history in producing the best of the best.

**In 2021** a young girl from this District made history by becoming the first African girl learner in the Province to be the overall best learner in the Province following the Announcement of the National Senior Certificate Examination.

She received a host of tokens including a brand new car for her outstanding achievements.

She is **Kgothatso Mphako** from **Kwamhlanga Secondary School** She is currently furthering her studies in Medicine at the University of Cape Town. In fact, this is her second year of study and she is doing very well.

In the 2022 National Senior Certificate Examination Results we celebrated, **Lonia Maphutha from KwaNdebele Science School**, in the Siyabuswa Circuit, who was awarded for best performing learner in Physical Science, she too was awarded a full Departmental bursary, a Laptop, Steam Iron, Travelling Bag and **R 10 000.00** . She is also furthering her studies in the University of Cape Town, also studying Medicine.

If these two learners can achieve such great results, then there shouldn't be anything that hinders you to do the same.

Take in all that your teachers are teaching you, the brain is similar to an ATM machine, what you have deposited in, is exactly what you will withdraw.

So my children, take in the knowledge that is deposited to you, so that you can withdraw it during your examination.

We can only look forward to even more great performances from you hence I call you - "the Class of Dreams."

We are fully aware that it is one thing to have dreams, but it's another to take action and turn those dreams into a reality.

You are not only dreamers, but doers and therefore your actions and commitment this year must solidify Nkangala District as the true District of Excellence.

I want to see this District counted amongst the best in the Country when the National Senior Certificate Examination Results are announced by the Minister of Basic Education in January 2024.

We are cognizant of the reality that the road to success has obstacles but we are here to urge you to soldier on, no matter how difficult the circumstances.

We are very much aware that some of you come from the poorest families, and I am here to hand you an invisible chalk, use it to draw a line and vow that the poverty in your family and community will not cross and pass through to the future generation.

Programme Director, Siyabuswa ranks number 59 and Siyabuswa 2 ranks 68 out of 71 circuits.

When we look at how schools in the Siyabuswa Circuit performed, we noted that:

- Grace Christian Private School registered an excellent **86 %** pass rate last year.

- Somkhahlelwa Secondary School registered an exceptional **85.4%** pass rate last year.
- Siyathokoza Secondary School registered an incredible **85.3%** pass rate last year.
- Mmashadi Secondary School registered an impressive **85.1%** pass rate last year.
- Kwandebele Science Combined School registered a commendable **73.8%** last year
- Bonginhlanhla Secondary School achieved **63.4%** last year.
- Duduzile Secondary School achieved **52.7 %** last year.
- Ubuhlebethu Secondary School achieved only **35.7%** last year.

This is how schools in the Siyabuswa 2 circuit performed:

- Intuthuko Secondary School registered an outstanding **89.5%** pass rate.
- Mogobosheng Secondary School also registered an outstanding **89.3%** pass rate
- Sidlasoke Secondary School registered an impressive **74.0%** pass rate
- Vezilwazi Secondary School registered a commendable **70.8%** pass rate
- Makhosana Secondary School achieved a **65.9%** pass rate last year.
- Sovetjheza Secondary School achieved a **64.7%** pass rate last year.

- Sobantu Secondary School registered a **62.2%** pass rate last year.
- Madlayedwa Secondary School registered **45.2%** pass rate last year.
- Madoda Secondary School registered **32.0%** pass rate last year.

We are deliberately presenting these results so that you can be aware of how your schools performed last year and for you to make a conscious decision to improve the results of your school this time around.

It is all in your hands, you can change the way people look at you and your school for the better.

All that you need to do is to take a position and work smarter and harder than before – respect your teachers, pay attention to what they are telling you and walk an extra mile in your school work.

You must stop blaming your environment and others for your lack of focus and laziness but look at the positive side of things and make things work for you.

It is only you who must rise to the occasion in order to be counted amongst the best of the best

When I said you are the Class of Dreams, I was thinking of the famous quotation by the late Martin Luther King where he said:

“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character”.

Indeed, our children must at all times possess a character full of humility, wisdom, integrity, self-discipline and accountability, and that is the character of a winning learner.

As a Department we are here to touch base with the CEO’s of tomorrow, because the great Sizwe Nxasana former CEO of First Rand Bank was once a learner like yourself.

We are here to speak to the future MEC’s because, even I once sat for a matric examination like you will soon do.

We have come to address technology giants of the coming years just as founder of Tesla, Elon Musk was himself once a matriculant.

My children, you are the best that the future has to offer and we cannot wait to busk in your greatness.

We wish you all the best.

I thank you.