

**Speech by the MEC for Education, Mr. Bonakele Majuba at
the Occasion of the Grade 12 Motivational Session at
Mgwenya Circuit on 09 May 2023 in Ehlanzeni District.**

Programme Director, and Chief Director, **Mr Chukudu**

Manyabeane

Representatives from the House of Traditional Leadership

Ward Councilors

Acting District Director, **Dr Jabulani Ndlovu**

Chairperson of the SGB

Members of the SGB

Pastor Ali Mokoena

Members of Senior Management

Members of the District Management Team

Circuit Manager, **Mr Moses Mlombo**

School Principals of the Participating Schools

Leadership of the Representatives Council of Learners

Officials of the Department of Education and

Learners

Sanibonani,

Thank you very much for honouring us with your presence.

We are truly grateful to be in the company of the Class of 2023-
the class of Dreams.

District Director, the name of your district is Ehlanzeni; in Nguni it means a **low lying land or area**. We all know that when water flows, it runs to low lying areas and there it causes the natural features called wetlands.

In our African cultures, wetlands are the lungs of the land, our land needs wetlands in order for it to breath – this therefore means you my children, are the lungs of the province, without you working extra hard and ensuring that you play your part, education would be gravely affected.

As we gather here today we are in the month of May, which acknowledged globally as worker's month.

South Africa is unfortunately still battling with a significant level of inequality, where those who were previously economically privileged still enjoy those fruits and while a vast number of the black community is still gradually growing towards economic freedom.

As the Government, we are doing our best to reverse this challenge, and we have come to the realisation that we constantly need fresh ideas, young minds and brand new energy to win this war of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

You are the energy we lack, the fresh minds we desperately are searching for and if you do well in your studies you will contribute ideas tailor-made to take us out of this predicament.

We certain that you already have an idea of what you want to be beyond tertiary education, and the reality is that there are a very few of you who want to be entrepreneurs and that is sad.

We have also come to encourage you to think of yourself not only as a job seeker, but as a job creator for yourself and others. Sitting before me here are great manufacturers, innovative farmers and sublime restaurateurs.

The day you pass and wait for a job, you become part of the problem of unemployment that we are faced with as a country.

But if you pass and start a small business, you are part of the solution we need in dealing with the current lack of quality jobs. From today when you look in the mirror; see a solution provider – you are very much capable.

The father of our revolution; Ernesto Che Guevara once said about young people; ***“Youth should learn to think and act as a mass. It is criminal to think as individuals.”***

When you think and act as part of the mass, you think of how you can solve your problem and that of the masses.

You think of how you can make another person's life better as you better your own. Let us work on being a people who bring solutions.

A reflection on the Circuit Results

Last year in 2022 Ehlanzeni registered **76.2%** and once more Mgwenya circuit scored below the district average, you registered **67.5%** which was an improvement from the **75.6%** obtained in 2021.

Programme Director, the Department has **71** circuits, and Mgwenya Circuit is standing at position **63**. Mgwenya Circuit also rates number **13** out of the **15** circuits in Ehlanzeni District.

We wish that this Circuit can be top in terms of performance, hence we are.

Let us therefore take a moment and reflect on how the schools in the circuit performed.

Mgwenya circuit has ten schools which administered the 2022 National Senior Certificate Examination.

Bonginhlanhla Secondary School had **90** learners who wrote the Examination and of those **76** passed, as such the school obtained an impressive **84.4%** pass rate.

Chief Charles Secondary School had **157** learners who wrote the Examination and of those **128** of those passed, as such the school obtained a commendable **81.5%** pass rate.

Sidungeni Secondary School had **78** learners who wrote the examination and of those **59** of those passed, as such the school obtained an encouraging **75.6%** pass rate

Sitintile Secondary School had **214** learners who wrote the examination and of those **153** passed, as such the school obtained a hopeful **71.5%** pass rate.

Ncakini Secondary School had **204** learners who wrote the examination and of those **143** passed, as such the school achieved a **69.8%** pass rate.

Thembeke Secondary School had **114** learners who wrote the examination and of those **79** passed, as such the school registered a **69.3%** pass rate

Lekazi Secondary School had **173** learners who wrote the examination and of those **118** passed as such the school obtained a **68.2%** pass rate.

Khaliphani Secondary School had **172** learners who wrote the examination and of those **107** passed as such the school obtained a **62.2%** pass rate.

ZB Kunene Secondary School had **157** learners who wrote the examination and of those **82** passed as such the school registered a **52.2%** pass rate.

Mayibuye Secondary School had **171** learners who wrote the examination and of those **88** passed as such the school obtained just **51.5%** pass rate.

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.

District Director, Circuit Manager, Principals, Teachers and Learners from Ngwenya Circuit, we are not daydreaming when we have so much expectations from you, we know what you are capable of.

In the year 2022, five of the Provincial Top Ten Learners were from the Ehlanzeni District, this is very commendable, it is unfortunate that none of these learners were from this circuit.

This is the reason why we can celebrate, Simelani Zwelihle, from Khutsalani Secondary School, who was part of the Top Ten, scoring level 07 in all his seven subjects.

For his excellent work he received **a full bursary** from the Department, **a travelling Bag** from Old Mutual, a Tablet from Vodacom, **a solar power bank** from Telkom, **a Laptop** from MTN, a **Bar Fridge, Steam Iron, a Goodie bag from Fundi, a Bag Pack, USB and Water Bottle, R 15 000** from Standard Bank, **R 20 000. 00** from ABSA, **R10 000. 00** from SAICA and **R 10 000.00** from SASOL.

My children, it is all in your hands.

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Take the opportunity of the May/June examination to honestly push yourselves, use these examinations to measure just how evaluate yourselves.

All 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 continued amongst the best of the best.

We wish you all the best.

I thank you.