

**Speech by the MEC for Education for the Occasion of the
Support visit to Madiboane Primary School in Dr. JS Moroka
Local Municipality on 23 April 2024.**

Programme Director and Nkangala District Director, **Mr. Douglas M Maja**
Executive Mayor of Dr. JS Moroka Local Municipality, **Cllr. Nomsa**

Mtshweni

Chairperson of the SGB, **Mr. Marulela Charles Lekokoane**

Ward Councillor,

Members of Senior Management

District Management Team

Members of the School Governing Body

Circuit Manager,

School Principal, **Mrs Julia Nthabiseng Moche**

Parents

Educators

Learners

Sanibonani,

Thank you very much for honouring us with your hospitality and presence.

We are aware that there is a lot of activity in Nkangala District today since all schools are expected to participate in the **Rhandza Xikolo Xa Wena Campaign**.

I am pleased to inform you that we are from Magodongo Primary School where we were able to fold our sleeves to improve the ambience of that school.

We hope that even in this school the same will happen.

Our desire with the Rhandza Xikolo Xa Wena Campaign is to foster an arrangement where every child walks into a safe, inspiring space, ready to learn and grow.

This vision is becoming a reality judging by the way our communities are supporting our schools and this campaign.

Today, we are meeting just four days before the people of our country will celebrate 30 years of Democracy and Freedom.

Indeed, we all have more reasons to celebrate our democracy given the gains which this government working with its people has been able to achieve over the years.

Indeed, this caring government knows that education remains the only key to unlocking a brighter future, as such, it deliberately invested a lot in the delivery of quality education.

We are reminded of Former President Nelson Mandela's powerful words which says:

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world,"

As we are celebrating our Freedom we are delighted that our government's commitment to education has resulted in several milestones such as improved learner performance across the board and increased the number of learners completing Grade 12.

The Department has been able to upgrade learning environments within Dr. J.S. Moroka Local Municipality.

These achievements pave the way for a future filled with opportunities.

In this school, **Madiboane Primary School**, the Department renovated nine classrooms to provide a more favourable and improved learning and teaching environment.

We believe that this has led to a better learner -teacher interaction and improved academic performance.

Our view is that everyone in this school appreciates these improvements.

Not far from here, **Thabong Primary School** also benefited as the Department repaired the four classrooms which were damaged by the storm to ensure the safety and well-being of learners and teachers, fostering a positive learning atmosphere.

In **Mmametli Secondary School**, the Department renovated eight classrooms, improve the roof, and a revamped the old office to create a well-ventilated, and functional learning space for both learners, teachers and support staff.

In, **Lefiso Primary School**, the Department has upgraded sanitation facilities, refurbished eleven (11) classrooms, and installed a new perimeter fence, rehabilitated the administration block, kitchen and computer lab.

All this is a clear display of our commitment to make the school environment for efficient learning and teaching conducive,

In **Seruane Secondary School**, the Department has improved sanitation facilities and installed reliable water source to promote better health and hygiene among learners and teachers.

In **Kome Primary School**, the Department renovated two blocks of eight (08) classrooms to provide a more spacious and conducive learning environment as well.

I recently visited, **Litho Secondary School** where the Department rehabilitated classrooms, a library, and improved infrastructure into a new standard for excellence.

I have not listed all the projects that have been undertaken but listed a few to demonstrate that indeed this government of the day is committed and caring for the education of our children.

Our government's investment is the foundation, but true success requires a united community.

We request our communities to take pride in these schools, treat them with respect and maintain the facilities for future generations.

We must also support our teachers and school management teams.

Parents need to volunteer their time and participate in school activities, events, and show appreciation for their schools at all times.

A strong, functional and united School Governing Body (SGB) is essential for our learners to progress successfully.

We therefore urge the newly elected members of SGB's to take the initiative and work collaboratively with the school management teams to make these schools true centres of community development.

Conclusion

These investments are a giant leap towards creating world-class learning environments in Dr. JS Moroka Local Municipality.

As the people of Uganda say, "A chattering bird build no nest."

By working together and not only talking, we can unlock the full potential of every child and build a brighter future for generations to come.

Let's embrace education, the most powerful weapon for change, and empower the future leaders of this Municipality.

No one must be left behind.

Rhandza Xikolo Xa Wena

Ngiyabonga