

**TO : NEWS EDITORS**

**FROM : MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**DATE : 07 OCTOBER 2008**

**SUBJECT : WORLD TEACHERS DAY CELEBRATION**

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The Mpumalanga Department of Education will convene the **World Teachers' Day Celebration** at Thulamahashe Stadium (Bushbuckridge) on 10 October 2008 at 12H00.

4000 teachers from the four regions have been given time off to attend the event and principals have been urged to make the required arrangements with parents in an event that schooling may be affected.

World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually on 5 October and is the day set aside to pay tribute to teachers.

The objectives of the World Teachers Day

- Celebrate the role played by teachers in community up-liftment.
- Recognise the central role teachers play in nurturing and guiding infants, children, youth and adults through the life long learning process.
- This special day provides a unique opportunity for the Department to publicly acknowledge and to promote the invaluable contribution made by teachers to the South African community.
- At a state and national level, World Teachers' Day recognizes and celebrates teachers as learners *"embarking on journeys of professional learning today that inspire and energize students now and into the future."*

This year United Education Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation ( **UNESCO**) has chosen to emphasise the importance of developing teacher policies.

The Department's Framework for Teacher Education and Development, published in April 2007, and is focused on increasing the supply and improving the knowledge and skills of teachers in our schools.

The Framework recognises that good education is dependent on good teaching and that an effort is required to attract young South Africans to consider teaching as a career of choice.

The event will be convened under the theme: “**Teachers Matter**”

The MEC for Education, Mrs Mmathulare Coleman will grace the occasion.

Media is invited

Issued by the Communication Directorate

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