



education

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MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

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TO : NEWS EDITORS

FROM : MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DATE : 04 OCTOBER 2010

SUBJECT : MEC FOR EDUCATION SALUTES EDUCATORS

Today (Tuesday, 05 October 2010) is World Teachers' Day. I take this time to join the people of the World to appreciate the noble role played by educators in the delivery of quality education and the development of society in general.

We always value and cherish the mandate that our teachers carry to ensure that our communities are empowered and developed to meet the needs of a democratic and developing nation as espoused by the constitution of the Republic.

At the same time, I call upon all communities to make an effort by appreciating the noble profession of teaching.

The Province is currently implementing School Improvement Programmes which can only be achieved through the commitment and dedication of our teachers. These programmes include the successful implementation of the Winter Schools, Saturday Classes; Dial a Tutor and Spring Classes.

As we celebrate World Teacher's Day, let us also acknowledge and encourage those teachers who take advantage of opportunities that the Department avails to for self development.

On Saturday, 02 October 2010, the Department launched the Teacher Laptop Initiative which intends to benefit 29 231 educators in the Province and is an endeavour to add impetus in our quest to improve their conditions of service.

At the same time, the Department will host the National Teaching Awards this Friday (08 October 2010) to reward outstanding performance by our educators.

Educators will be rewarded in the following categories:

- Excellence in Primary School Teaching
- Excellence in Secondary School Teaching
- Excellence in Primary School Leadership
- Excellence in Secondary School Leadership
- Excellence in Grade R Teaching
- Excellence in Inclusive Education and Special Needs Teaching
- Excellence in Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET) and
- Lifetime Achievement Award

In addition, the Department is rolling out a programme to improve school infrastructure by eradicating unsafe school structures. This intends to ensure that the teaching and learning environment is conducive.

Added to this, is an effort to introduce a school hostel strategy that must come to fruition before the end of this financial year.

The Department continues to work side by side with educators and their respective unions to ensure sustainable improvement in their conditions of service.

It is also prudent that our communities encourage their children to take teaching as a career of choice. Through the Departmental Bursary Fund, Fundza Lushaka and the National Student Financial Aid Scheme, government is making it possible for anyone to study to be a teacher.

Once more, I take this time to extend our profound appreciation for the good work that our educators do to improve the delivery of education in this Province.

Happy World Teachers Day!

Regards,

MRS. REGINAH MHAULE
MEC FOR EDUCATION

End

Issued by the Communication Directorate
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