

**CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO THE CLASS OF 2005
FROM THE HON. PREMIER, MR. THABANG MAKWETLA
ON THE OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL RELEASE OF THE
GRADE 12 RESULTS AT GRACELAND CASINO, SECUNDA
29 DECEMBER 2005**

MEC for Education, the Honourable Siphosezwe Masango
Other Members of the Executive Council
Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Education, Mr S
Sikhosana
Members of the Legislature
Executive District Mayors
Director-General Mr Khaya Ngema
Superintendent-General Mr Monwabisi Ray Tywakadi
Members of Senior Management
Comrades, Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to congratulate the matric class of 2005 in the Province for obtaining a 59% pass rate. It is quite clear that a lot still needs to be done because as leaders and parents of the Province, we aspire to have a 100% pass rate.

It is imperative that the Department should conduct an introspection in order to scientifically identify the areas that need improvement.

This will invariably include issues like resources, that is, human, financial and infrastructural; leadership ability and capacity, these will include principals and teachers and lastly to identify direct interventions that need to be done to correct and improve the situation in the short, medium and long term.

I would also like to encourage those learners who were not successful not to be deflated and lose faith in themselves. If you do not succeed at first try, and try again until you succeed. The Province needs all of you to succeed so that you can play an active role in the political, economic, social and cultural development of Mpumalanga.

In conclusion, I would like to congratulate the MEC and the Department of Education for conducting an incident free matric examination in 2005 and hope that this will serve as a bench mark that the Department will use to ensure that as the matric results improve so will the conditions of the writing of examinations.

Thabang Makwetla

Premier