

MESSAGE OF SUPPORT DELIVERED AT THE OCCASION OF THE AWARDS CEREMONY AT BARBERTON CIRCUIT ON 19 MARCH 2010

I am very grateful that the circuit has made it a priority to reward outstanding performance of learners, educators and schools.

This is a good undertaking and it deserves to be done to send a clear message that in education we value excellence, good results and high levels of professionalism.

We bemoan anything that is contrary to the ethos and virtues of good conduct such as unprofessionalism, mediocrity, laziness and helplessness.

I am thrilled and excited that today's event will provide energy, courage and some impetus to learners and will also bear a good news story.

To those who will be receiving the awards, I want to say the province is proud of you, remain our ambassadors and torch bearers and send a message of goodwill, success and a better live.

Be proud of your achievements and walk tall knowing that indeed amid all the things that are said about the education outcomes, you have been able to hoist and fly the flag high.

We also take pride in the good work done by your educators, members of the school management team, principals and non teaching staff in your schools.

We appreciate all of them for their hard work and commitment towards the creation of an enabling environment that has enabled you to excel.

I am reminded of the words of Martin Luther King Junior when he said.

“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character”.

It is in that content that you have displayed heroic and patriotic qualities that usher us into a new day, a day where excellence in education delivery will be the order of the day, a day where lamentations cease to exist, a day where everybody; parents, educators, learners and community members will jealously protect all educational activities.

I wish you the best in life and success in everything you do or touch.

Go out there and send a clear message that there is success in Mpumalanga Province, a province with a pioneering spirit.

Thank You