

GRADE 12 CLASS OF 2012 SHARE THE R600 000 IN BURSARIES FOR 2013

The “born free” Grade 12 (matric) class of 2012 is to share the cake of over R600 000 in bursary when continuing education at registered and accredited tertiary institutions of their choice. This was revealed by Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Mayor Councilor Yvonne Mmakola during the “Best Performed Matriculates Awards Ceremony” for 2012 held at Ephraim Mogale local municipality hall on Friday the 11 January 2013.

For the second time, the municipality as strategy to motivate matriculates and their educators to perform well awarded the top ten learners, the best performing school and districts and the most improved school. The municipality increased bursary allocation from R312 000 to R600 000 during its 2012/2013 budget.

Addressing over 200 people that include school principals, chairpersons of governing bodies, learners, and district education managers, the mayor indicated that despite the fact that the municipality is small and rural, it takes education and skills development very seriously. The municipality believes in investing in the young people within its jurisdictions who will contribute both to the municipal economic growth and the country at large. Quoting former president Dr Mandela when he said “after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb”, the mayor indicated to the learners that matric was just one of those hills they have encountered; and that they still have more hills after matric to climb. “You will need dedication and commitment to climb those hills, do not think that this is the last hill; but the beginning of those hills as former president said.”

On congratulating the Limpopo Department of Education, the Mayor indicated that the Department’s death was well written all over. No one believed that today the Department will produce nine best learners amongst the top fifteen in the country, with the best performed learner coming from Limpopo province, and most importantly from the Sekhukhune District. From the controversial taking over of Administration by the National Government to book scandal, all these did not destruct both the learners and the educators from doing their job, learning and teaching. “We will learn from you, in being patient in delivering services to our communities”, she concluded.

Talking on behalf of the five Department of Education District Managers, Mr Motsepe thanked the municipality for continuing with the awards as that has triggered changes and competition amongst the schools and districts. This was revealed by the fact that the top learners for class of 2012, Pututu Magoba of Nape-a-Ngwato under Tsimanyane District, achieved 88% in overall, which is 3% over what Clifford Tshehla, 2011 top learner in the municipal jurisdictional area from Puputle Secondary School got, which was 85%. The district performance within the municipality also increases from 57% to over 70%.

There are four schools which obtained 100% in Moutse District and five schools which improved in performance from 8% and 52% during 2011 to between 50% and 92%. Most importantly schools have produced not only quantity, but also quality, increasing the number of learners who qualify for the university entrance.

Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality continues partnership with Classy Funeral Brokers in changing the face of the education of both schools and districts within its jurisdictional area. Mr. Makofane, the Director of Classy Funeral Broker challenges everyone to set norms and standard of our education in the area. He said that we need to regard anything less than 100% as poor performance and all work towards achieving 100% pass rate at both school and district level. “We need not only produce quantity, but quality that will make learners to be easily absorbed by the economic activities”. Mr Makofane also challenges other business communities within the municipality to come forward to partake in the education and skilling of the young people. If business community needs skillful workers, it should contribute towards their skilling through making finance available to assist them at tertiary institutions.

Learners who performed well within the top ten in this municipal area are as follows:

Learners	Schools	Circuit	Gender	Percentage	
1. MogobaThapeloPodudu	NapeaNgwato	Tsimanyane	M	88%	
2. MotloutsiDineo	Ngwanakwena	Tsimanyane	F	86%	
3. TshepisoMakuru	Pezunga	Moutse West	M	81.4	
4. Kekane Caleb Collie	Lepelle	Tsimanyane		80%	
5. MamogaleValentiaBogopa	Rekhuditse	Moutse West	F	78.6	
6. BogopaTsosetsoTshegedi	NapeaNgwato	Tsimanyane		77%	
7. Kgaogelo NankieVenoliaMoima	Pezunga	Moutse West	F	72.9	
8. PercyvalMaila	Tshikanoshi	Moutse West	M	72.3	
9. DubeStalline	Mahlontebe	Tsimanyane		72%	
10. ThakgudiMakaba	Manyaku	Motwaneng	M	71.14	

End

MAHLONTEBE SCOOPED “THE MOST IMPROVED SCHOOL AWARDS”

The controversial and “most talked about” Mahlontebe School in Leeuwfontein scooped the most improved school during the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Top performed learners Awards held at the Municipality offices.

The school obtains 52% performance during 2011 and has improved to 92%; being the best performed school in Tsimanyane District; overtaking the most respected Ngwanakwena Secondary school.

Awarding the school, Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Mayor Yvonne Mmakola reminded everyone about the controversies the school found itself in during the academic year. Surrounded by the allegations of educators having sexual relations with learners, to situations where all learners from grade 8 to 11 failed. These forced the Department of Education in Limpopo province and the municipality to intervene. The principal was booted out and the school improved drastically which shows that there was poor leadership at that school. “The school has been in the media for wrong things; and now we hope it will be important to keep the performance so that it is in the media for the right things; which is school’s good performance”, concluded the Mayor.

Other improved schools includes the followings

Circuit	School	2011	2012
Moutse	Mabake	44%	91%
Rakgwadi	Ramoroke	8%	50%
Phokwane	Makwetle	45%	62.5%
Tsimanyane	Mahlontebe	52.6 %	92.6%

End

FOUR SCHOOLS OBTAINED 100% AS MOUTSE ACHIEVE THE BEST PERFORMING DISTRICT AWARD

The Moutse West Circuit continued to outperform other Circuits since the tough lashes by the Limpopo MEC of Education, Mr. NamaneMasemola, during his visit in 2011. The circuit was one of the worse-performing within the municipality, but has drastically improved from 20% in 2010, 70% in 2011 and recently achieved 88.7% in overall performance of the matric.

The circuit also produced four schools with 100% pass rate, the only circuit to do that within the boundaries of the municipality. In congratulating the circuit, the municipal Mayor, Cllr Yvonne Mmakola, reminded everyone about the challenges used to be faced by the circuit. This prompted Limpopo MEC of Education, Mr. NamaneMasemola to pay a special visit to the circuit and threatened to take a drastic action should the situation not improve. Today we celebrate the achievement; and we challenge other circuits to learn from Moutsecircuit and hope that there will be drastic improvement before the MEC come down.

The four schools which obtained 100% withinMoutseCircuitare the followings:

School	Learners Wrote	Percentage
Tshikanoshi Secondary School	27	100
Kgagatlou Secondary School	27	100
Rekhuditse Secondary School	24	100
Pezunga Secondary School	7	100

TSIMANYANE CIRCUIT from 51% in 2010 to 68% in 2011; went down to 67.9% in 2012. RAKGOADI CIRCUIT down-performed from61.2% in 2010 to 46.8 in2011, and improved to 56.2% in 2012 which does not show consistency. It must be noted that only few schools fall under the municipal jurisdiction in the two circuits, that is Lepelle and Phokwane, but one of the school in Phokwane , that is MoreriChoenyana of Manotolwaneng Village in ward 13, achieved81.8%

This improving performances by schools, made the municipality's overall performance to increase from 57% during 2011 to 70% in 2012.