

SPEECH BY LIMPOPO MEC FOR EDUCATION MS POLLY BOSHELO DURING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2019 MATRIC EXAMINATION RESULTS, 08 JANUARY 2020, THE RANCH, LIMPOPO

Thank you Programme Director

Premier Chupu Stanley Mathabatha and the First Lady, Mme Mathabatha

Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature Mme Mavhungu Luruli-Ramakhanya

Deputy Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature, Mr. Jerry Azwinndini Ndou

Honourable MECs

The Chairperson of the Education Portfolio, Hon. Violet Mathye

Honourable Members of the Limpopo Provincial Legislature

Members of the National Assembly and the NCOP

Executive Mayors, Mayors, Speakers, Chief Whips and Councilors

Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoshi Dikgale

Khosikhulu Vho-Mphephu Ramabulana

Kgoshikgolo Thulare III

And all Traditional Leaders present

His Grace the Right Reverend Dr. Barnabas Lekganyane

Bishop Jeremiah Mashele

Chairperson of the SACC Rev. Awedzani Nemaikhwe

Pastor Strike and Joylene Manganyi and all other Religious Leaders

Present

Leadership of our teacher unions, SADTU, SAOU, PEU and NAPTOSA

Organized Labour NEHAWU and PSA, SGBs, Civic Associations

Learners Organisations, COSAS and RCLs

Professional Associations, AMESA, SAASTE and NAETSA

Director General

Superintendent General of the Limpopo Department of Education, Mme Beauty Mutheiwana and her Executive Management Team, Senior Management, District Directors, Circuit Managers, Principals and Educators

Heads of Limpopo Provincial Departments

Parents, Learners and Sponsors and Education Partners

Distinguished Guests

Comrades, Friends and Compatriots

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Morning and Compliments of the New Year

Programme director, the day that we have been waiting for has finally arrived. Today marks the end of anxieties, sleeplessness and headaches as we present the 2019 Matric Results.

The Class of 2019 is the sixth cohort to sit for the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations based on Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements (CAPS). These learners entered Grade 1 in 2008 and today marks their 12 years of formal schooling. Today we are celebrating the hard work of learners and teachers, sacrifices and support by parents, religious leaders, traditional leaders and all our strategic partners in education. It is indeed true that education is a societal issue, hence the involvement of all

stakeholders in the education of our children. We have to protect schooling at all times and never to bargain with it for whatever purpose.

We recognize that the National Senior Certificate results are an important indicator of the quality of our education system. We are delighted that the province has once again delivered a credible and incident free 2019 NSC examination with no systemic irregularities as declared by Umalusi, the Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training.

Programme Director, in 2019 the Province registered 93 932 NSC candidates. 70 847 candidates wrote all the seven subjects. Of the remaining 23 085, some were absent from the examination while the majority opted for multiple examination opportunities by writing less than seven subjects.

As the Department, we are delighted and encouraged that more girl learners are participating meaningfully in our formal education system and are performing very well. The gender spread of the candidates who wrote all subjects is 38 740 girls and 32 107 boys.

Programme Director, in 2014, the Province achieved 72.9% pass rate, the highest since 1996. In 2015 the performance declined to 65.9% and further declined to 62.5% in 2016. The performance increased in 2017 to 65.6%, and further increased in 2018 to 69.4%.

The Class of 2019 has set a new record since 1996 by surpassing the highest recorded performance of 72.9% in 2014.

Premier, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am very delighted to announce that the Province's Class of 2019 has achieved a new record of **73.2%**. This represents an increase of 3.8% as compared to the performance of 2018.

Please help me celebrate this new record.

Premier, this is a clear indication that we are on track towards achieving the 80% matric pass rate as set in our Limpopo Development Plan.

Programme Director, out of the 70 847 candidates who sat for the 2019 NSC examinations, 51 855 passed. The gender spread is 27 290 girls and 24 565 boys. Our bachelor pass in 2019 is 19 022 compared to 17 999 in 2018. This is an increase of 3.3% from 23.5% in 2018 to 26.8% in 2019. 18 558 candidates achieved diplomas and 14 270 higher certificates and 5 achieved the National Senior Certificate qualification. In terms of bachelor passes, girls and boys contributed 9 808 and 9 214 respectively. It is pleasing to note that 45 229 of those that passed are from our previously marginalized communities, that are mainly in quintiles 1 to 3 schools. These results show that the education system is on the rise in terms of addressing access, redress, equity, efficiency and quality.

Programme director, we now present the National Senior Certificate (NSC) Awards for the 2019 Academic Year:

Categories to be awarded

1. Top 3 Districts

This category recognizes the three best performing districts in terms of the overall percentage pass. The district must be performing at 65% and above, and achieve 30% and above of a combination of Bachelor and Diploma passes:

The following are the recipients of this award and have all performed above 80%:

Position	%Pass	District
3	80.0	Vhembe West
2	81.4	Waterberg
1	81.5	Vhembe East

Programme Director, it is worth noting that we have reduced the number of underperforming districts from 3 to 1. 9 out of ten education districts performed above 65%. The most improved education districts are Waterberg by 8.3%, Capricorn South by 7.1% and Capricorn North by 5.5%.

2. Top 10 Circuits in the Province

This category recognizes the 10 best performing circuits in terms of the overall percentage pass. 500 or more candidates must have written, and the circuit must be performing at 65% and above, and achieved 30% and above of a combination of Bachelor and Diploma passes. The recipients of the award are as follows:

It is worth mentioning that position 10 is a tie

Position	%Pass	District	Circuit
10	84.1	Sekhukhune South	Groblerdal
10	84.1	Vhembe East	Mvudi
9	85.1	Vhembe West	Hlanganani Central
8	85.2	Vhembe West	Nzhelele West
7	85.3	Vhembe East	Tshilamba
6	86.1	Mogalakwena	Potgietersrus
5	86.4	Capricorn South	Pietersburg
4	87.4	Vhembe East	Sibasa
3	88.2	Mopani West	Tzaneen
2	88.3	Vhembe East	Tshinane
1	88.4	Vhembe East	Vhuronga 1

We have reduced the number of underperforming circuits from 51 to 37 in 2019.

3. Top Three (3) Most improved PUBLIC schools in the Province

This category recognises schools with the most improved results over the past three years, that is, 2017 to 2019. To be awarded the prize, the school must have 50 or more candidates who wrote in each of the three years, and the highest difference in performance from 2017 to 2019 and has improved continuously from 2017 to 2019. The school must have a pass rate of 65% or more in 2019 and a combined bachelor and diploma pass rate of 30% or more.

Position	2017 – 2019 % Improvement	District	Circuit	School Name
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3	45.0%	Vhembe East	Malamulele West	Jim Yingwani High
2	49.1%	Capricorn South	Mankweng	Makgongoana High
1	49.4%	Capricorn North	Koloti	Seshego High

4. Performance in Quintiles 1 to 3 Schools

This category recognises top performing schools in quintiles 1 to 3 schools. These are schools in poorest of the poor communities. To participate in this category, a school must have 50 or more candidates written, achieved a pass rate of 65% or more and a combination of bachelor and diploma passes of 30%. The schools are:

4.1 Quintile 3 School

No. (B+ D)	District	Circuit	Name of school
259	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary

4.2 Quintile 2 School

No. (B+ D)	District	Circuit	Name of school
288	Vhembe East	Tshinane	Tshivhase Secondary

4.3 Quintile 1 School

No. (B+ D)	District	Circuit	Name of school
141	Sekhukhune South	Lobethal	Rantobeng Secondary

5. PUBLIC Schools that obtained 100% overall pass

This category recognises public schools that obtained 100% pass rate, as well as a 30% combination of Bachelor and Diploma passes. In no particular order, they are:

District	Circuit	School Name
Mogalakwena	Baltimore	Sephuthi Secondary
Vhembe East	Vhuronga 1	Mugoidwa Secondary
Sekhukhune South	Phokoane	Moreko High

6. Ten (10) Best Performing PUBLIC Schools in terms of number of Bachelor Passes

This category recognizes the 10 best performing PUBLIC schools in terms of the total number of BACHELOR passes. In order to receive the award, 50 or more candidates must have written and the school must be performing at 65% and above, as well as 30% and above of a combination of Bachelor and Diploma passes.

Position	No. of Bachelor	District	Circuit	School Name
10	122	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Capricorn High
9	123	Capricorn North	Bochum East	Dendron Secondary
8	124	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Taxila
7	135	Mopani West	Tzaneen	Merensky High School
6	158	Vhembe West	Nzhelele West	Patrick Ramaano
5	164	Vhembe East	Mvudi	Thohoyandou Secondary
4	167	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Hoërskool Pietersburg

Please note that the top three public schools will be announced later on in this award ceremony.

7. Top 3 Independent schools in the Province

This category recognises top three independent schools in the Province on the number of bachelor passes. To receive the award, 50 or more candidates must have written, and achieve a pass rate of 65% or more and combination of bachelor and diploma passes of 30%. The school must be a registered examination centre and accredited by Umalusi.

Position	Bachelors	District	Circuit	School Name
3	75	Mopani West	Nkowankowa	St. George College
2	128	Mopani East	Man'ombe	Nkwangulatilo
1	173	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Northern Academy

8. Top Public Special School

This category recognises the best performing Public Special School in terms of overall pass percentage. The school must have a pass rate of 65% or more and a combined bachelor and diploma pass rate of 30% or more.

%Pass	District	Circuit	School Name
100.0	Vhembe West	Elim	Rivoni School For The Blind

Programme Director, in 2019 we have reduced the number of underperforming schools from 621 to 492, which represents a 20.8% reduction in underperforming schools.

9. Top Performing candidates in subjects

This category recognises top learners from public schools in gateway subjects, home languages and technology subjects achieved at 80% and above, that is, level 7. This award excludes cases where the candidates obtained total marks in a subject, which is 300/300.

9.1 Top Performing Candidates in Gateway Subjects and Home Languages

Subject	Mark	District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Surname and Names
Accounting	297	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Hoërskool Noorderland	Female	Kubayi Tshegofatso Petronella
Accounting	297	Sekhukhune East	Mmashadi	St. Mark's Comprehensive	Female	Makua Naledi
Agricultural Sciences	284	Vhembe East	Malamulele West	Khatisa Secondary	Male	Mathebula Nhlahla Cassius
Business Studies	298	Vhembe West	Soutpansberg East	Litshovhu Secondary	Male	Raliphada Mukhethwa
Economics	294	Vhembe West	Elim	Rivoni School for the Blind	Male	Mbendzani Tiyani
Geography	293	Vhembe West	Nzhelele West	Patrick Ramaano	Female	Ganyane Mutshidzi Alucia
History	292	Mopani West	Tzaneen	Mohlatlego Machaba	Female	Mohale Tebogo Enjelinah
Mathematical Literacy	289	Mopani West	Xihoko	Sevengwana Secondary	Female	Maake Beverly
Xitsonga Home Language	263	Vhembe West	Elim	Rivoni School for the Blind	Male	Mbendzani Tiyani
Tshivenda Home Language	291	Vhembe East	Niani West	Ratshibvumo Secondary	Female	Matodzi Mulisa Admission

Subject	Mark	District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Surname and Names
Setswana Home Language	243	Waterberg	Thabazimbi	Groenvlei Secondary	Female	Gare Mphoreng Rosina
Sepedi Home Language	272	Mogalakwena	Potgietersrus	Hoërskool Pietpotgieter	Female	Ledwaba Koena Salome
IsiXhosa Home Language	242	Waterberg	Dwaalboom	Northam Comprehensive	Female	Krazia Nyanisa
IsiNdebele Home Language	268	Sekhukhune South	Manthole	St. Paul High	Female	Mtshweni Patience Duduzile
English Home Language	255	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Capricorn High	Female	Bejrajh Kiara
English First Additional Language	283	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Capricorn High	Female	Kgomoeswana Mahlako
Afrikaans Home Language	278	Waterberg	Thabazimbi	Hoërskool Frikkie Meyer	Female	Lategan Mine

9.2 Top Performing Candidates in Technology and Technical Subjects

Subject description	Mark	District	Circuit	School	Gender	Surname and Names
Civil Technology (Civil Services)	253	Capricorn South	Lebowakgomo	Derek Kobe	Male	Molosi Malesela David
Civil Technology (Construction)	286	Capricorn South	Maraba	Pax High	Male	Machaba Katlego Glen
Computer Applications Technology	292	Mopani West	Tzaneen	Merensky High	Male	Moller Juan-Jacques
Electrical Technology (Power Systems)	248	Waterberg	Ellisras	Mabalane Seleka Technical	Female	Ramoroka Karabo Andronicca
Engineering Graphics and Design	289	Sekhukhune East	Moroke	Serokolo Secondary	Female	Twala Nthabiseng Agnes
Information Technology	289	Mopani West	Tzaneen	Hoërskool Ben Vorster	Male	Nortje Mathys
Mechanical Technology (Automotive)	262	Vhembe East	Mvudi	Thohoyandou Technical	Male	Phupheli Mulanga

Subject description	Mark	District	Circuit	School	Gender	Surname and Names
Mechanical Technology (Fitting and Machining)	257	Sekhukhune South	Moutse Central	St. Josefs Secondary	Female	Mmopane Smangele
Technical Mathematics	278	Vhembe East	Niani East	Ratshisase Secondary	Male	Mavhetha Rudzani
Technical Science	243	Sekhukhune East	Driekop	Sehlaku Secondary	Male	Mashilo Kervin Mokgokolo

9.3 Candidates Performing at 300/300 Gateway Subjects

9.3.1 300/300 in Life Sciences

District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Name of Candidate
Sekhukhune South	Lobethal	Rantobeng Secondary	Male	Mashabela Trevor

9.3.2 300/300 in Physical Sciences

District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Name of Candidate
Mogalakwena	Potgietersrus	Waterberg High	Male	Mashaba Puseletso Antony
Capricorn South	Mankweng	Makgoka High	Male	Rasesepa Takalani John
Capricorn South	Mankweng	Marobathota High	Male	Fachie Modidi Rocky
Capricorn South	Mankweng	Marobathota High	Male	Rampedi Mahasha Reshoketswe
Capricorn North	Bochum East	Dendron Secondary	Female	Chauke Blessings Tsakane
Capricorn North	Sekgosesse West	St. Brendans Catholic	Male	Ramatso Karabo Moalusi
Vhembe East	Tshinane	Tshivhase Secondary	Male	Tshivhase Gundo Ebenezer
Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary	Male	Malada Wamashudu
Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary	Male	Muļaisi Lutendo
Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary	Male	Tshinavhe Rembuluwani Delron
Mopani East	Man'ombe	Giyani High	Male	Mathebula Theo

District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Name of Candidate
Sekhukhune East	Mmashadi	Jane Furse Comprehensive	Male	Manaka Makoena
Sekhukhune East	Mmashadi	St. Mark's Comprehensive	Male	Matlejoane Brian Dephafe
Sekhukhune East	Mmashadi	St. Mark's Comprehensive	Male	Mogodi Nape Setepu
Sekhukhune South	Phokoane	Moreko Secondary	Male	Mhlongo Kabelo Thulani

9.3.3 300/300 in Mathematics and Physical Sciences

District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Name of Candidate
Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary	Male	Ranzida Mukona Martin

9.3.4 300/300 in Physical Sciences and Life Sciences

District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Name of Candidate
Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary	Female	Mañwadu Tshilidzi
Vhembe West	Nzhelele West	Patrick Ramaano	Male	Mantsha Rotenda

10. Best performing teacher in PUBLIC schools in the 11 selected subjects and Home Languages

This category recognises teachers who have produced the highest total of levels 6 and 7 candidates in the gateway subjects and home languages. To receive this award, the teacher(s) must have passed 50 or more candidates at levels 6 and 7. The subject must have achieved 65% or more. These subjects are taught by more than one teacher. The best performing teachers that met the criteria are:

Subject	L6 + L7	District	Circuit	Nameacher	School Name
English First Additional Language	159	Vhembe East	Sibasa	1. Rasikhanya F.I. 2. Nemakhavhani M.S. 3. Magidi A.	Mbilwi Secondary
Sepedi Home Language	124	Capricorn North	Bochum East	1. Mokwatedi K.J. 2. Kgafane M.M. 3. Rampa P. 4. Lekoloane N.J.	Dendron Secondary
Geography	81	Vhembe East	Sibasa	1. Makhuvha N.S. 2. Masutha M. 3. Nwashe M.E.	Mbilwi Secondary
Xitsonga Home Language	97	Vhembe East	Malamulele Central	1. Mabasa D.M. 2. Mabasa M.E. 3. Shiseke D.A.	E P P. Mhinga
Xitsonga Home Language	97	Vhembe West	Hlanganani Central	1. Mashaba N.M. 2. Mathebula R.G. 3. Maluleke F.P.	Hluvuka High
Life Sciences	84	Vhembe East	Sibasa	1. Mulovhedzi E.K. 2. Nedawaila T.J. 3. Lidzhade N.C.	Mbilwi Secondary
Tshivenda Home Language	405	Vhembe East	Tshinane	1. Mamathuba M.M. 2. Mushiana T.I. 3. Ratshibvumo H. 4. Maselesele F.K.	Tshivhase High
Physical Sciences	86	Vhembe East	Sibasa	1. Sankaran B. 2. Rumhungwe K.L. 3. Mudau P.M.	Mbilwi Secondary
Afrikaans Home Language	82	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	1. Van der Merwe Ina 2. Britz Lynn 3. Van der Walt Lynnette	Hoërskool Pietersburg

11. Top 3 Club 100 – Mathematics in PUBLIC schools

A school qualifies to be in this prestigious club if 100 or more candidates pass Mathematics at 50% or more. The overall pass percentage in the subject must be 65% or more. The three schools in this club with the highest number of candidates passing Mathematics at 50% or more will be awarded. The recipients are:

Position	Achieved 50% and above	District	Circuit	Centre Name
3	110	Capricorn North	Bochum East	Dendron Secondary
2	116	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary
1	160	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary

12. Top 3 Club 100 – Mathematics and Physical Sciences in Public Schools

A school qualifies to be in this club if 100 or more candidates pass Mathematics at 50% or more, and 100 or more candidates pass Physical Sciences at 50% or more. The pass percentage in each subject (Mathematics and Physical Sciences) must be 65% or more, separately. The schools are ranked according to the highest total of candidates passing Mathematics and Physical Sciences at 50% or more. The schools are:

Position	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	Total Candidates	District	Circuit	School Name
3	110	100	210	Capricorn North	Bochum East	Denron Secondary
2	116	150	266	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary
1	160	216	376	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary

13. Top 3 Club 100 – Agricultural Sciences in PUBLIC schools

Agriculture is one of the growth pillars in our Province in terms of the LDP. We have decided to introduce Club 100 in Agricultural Sciences. A school qualifies to be in this club if 100

or more candidates pass Agricultural Sciences at 50% or more. The school must be performing in the subject, that is, the pass percentage in the subject must be 65% or more.

Our concern for the 2019 examinations is that no school was able to meet the required threshold for this award. We encourage all schools offering Agricultural Sciences to ensure learners and teachers work hard and perform at the required threshold so that they are recognised when we announce the 2020 matric results.

14. Thirty (30) Best Performing Candidates in PUBLIC Schools

To qualify for this category, the candidates must have achieved the highest total of the 6 best subjects excluding Life Orientation, and a minimum of 60% in each of the subjects, making it an aggregate of 1080 marks.

It is very interesting that this year there is a number of ties within the top 30 candidates. The three ties at 1621 effectively means that 32 instead of 30 recipients will be awarded in this category.

Position	Total	District	Circuit	School	Gender	Surname and Names
30	1 620	Waterberg	Thabazimbi	Hoërskool Frikkie Meyer	Female	Lategan Mine
29	1 621	Capricorn South	Mankweng	Makgoka High	Male	Rasesepa Takalani John
29	1 621	Capricorn North	Bochum West	Phagamang Secondary	Male	Kgatla Motshala
29	1 621	Vhembe West	Soutpansberg West	Kutama Secondary	Female	Madima Tracy Shonisani
27	1 622	Capricorn North	Sekgosese West	St. Brendan's Catholic	Female	Muila Meronia Vhulenda

Position	Total	District	Circuit	School	Gender	Surname and Names
27	1 622	Sekhukhune East	Driekop	Makopi Secondary	Male	Kgwete Molaka Olben
26	1 623	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary	Female	Mukwevho Uzwothe
23	1 624	Mogalakwena	Potgietersrus	Waterberg High	Male	Mashaba Puseletso Antony
23	1 624	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Bokamoso Secondary	Female	Ledwaba Refilwe Neo Precious
23	1 624	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary	Male	Mphoshomali Ndiene Gidion
22	1 625	Vhembe West	Nzhelele West	Patrick Ramaano	Male	Netshisahulu Ridokunda
21	1 627	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary	Male	Nthulane Stanley Juniour Tshimangadzo
19	1 629	Capricorn North	Bochum East	Dendron Secondary	Male	Kgomo Modibe Reuben
19	1 629	Vhembe East	Tshinane	Tshivhase Secondary	Female	Mukwevho Maḁuvhahafani Ntendeni
18	1 634	Capricorn South	Maraba	Motse Maria	Female	Mabe Letsoba Savanna
17	1 635	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary	Female	Muhanelwa Elelwani
16	1 637	Vhembe East	Malamulele North East	Jim Chavani	Male	Hlongwane Hlamulo
15	1 638	Mopani West	Tzaneen	Hoërskool Ben Vorster	Male	Nortje Mathys
14	1 639	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Capricorn High	Female	Masekela Hellen Koloï JNR
13	1 649	Mopani East	Man'ombe	Giyani High	Female	Nkuna Shiluvelo Tracey
12	1 650	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary	Male	Mulaisi Lutendo
11	1 651	Sekhukhune East	Mmashadi	St. Mark's Comprehensive	Male	Mogodi Nape Setepu
10	1 657	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Hoërskool Noorderland	Female	Kubayi Tshegofatso Petronella
09	1 661	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary	Male	Ranzida Mukona Martin
07	1 663	Vhembe East	Niani West	Maḁavhela Secondary	Male	Phasani Nduvho Nesta
07	1 663	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary	Female	Mudau Londani
06	1 672	Sekhukhune East	Mmashadi	St. Marks Comprehensive	Male	Matlejoane Brian Diphafe
05	1 677	Capricorn North	Bochum East	Dendron Secondary	Female	Chauke Blessings Tsakane

Position	Total	District	Circuit	School	Gender	Surname and Names
04	1 680	Sekhukhune South	Lobethal	Rantobeng Secondary	Male	Mashabela Trevor

The top three candidates in public schools will be announced later on in this award ceremony.

15. Top 3 candidates in Independent Schools

To qualify for this category, the candidates must have achieved the highest total of the 6 best subjects excluding Life Orientation, and a minimum of 60% in each of the subjects, making it an aggregate of 1080 marks:

Position 3

Total Marks Obtained : 1 612
District : Vhembe East
Circuit : Tshilamba
School : St. Augustine Residential
Gender : Female
Candidate : Phophi Zwashu Coreen

Position 2

Total Marks Obtained : 1 618
District : Vhembe West
Circuit : Nzhelele Central
School : Comprehensive Trinity Academy
Gender : Male
Candidate : Mugodo Funanani

Position 1

Total Marks Obtained : 1 682
District : Mopani East
Circuit : Man'ombe
School : Nkwangulatilo
Gender : Male
Candidate : Maluleke Nyiko Kirsten

Please note that this year, the top candidate in independent schools ranks fourth as compared to candidates in public schools.

16. Top Learner in Public Special School

In order to be recognised in this category, a candidate must obtain the highest total of 6 best subjects excluding Life Orientation and a minimum aggregate of 900 marks.

Total 6 Best	District	Circuit	Centre Name	Gender	Name of Candidate
1 504	Vhembe West	Elim	Rivoni School For The Blind	Male	Mbendzani Tiyani

17. Top (3) PUBLIC schools

Coming back to Public Schools, I now have the honour to present to you the Top three public schools. The schools are:

Position	No. of Bachelor	District	Circuit	School Name
3	172	Vhembe East	Tshinane	Tshivhase Secondary
2	173	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary
1	224	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary

18. Top (3) candidates from PUBLIC schools

To crown it all, I now present to you the cream of the Province:
Limpopo's top three candidates are:

Position 3:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 694
District : Vhembe West
Circuit : Nzhelele West
School : Patrick Ramaano
Gender : Male
Candidate : Mantsha Rotenda

Position 2:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 710
District : Vhembe East
Circuit : Sibasa
School : Mbilwi Secondary
Gender : Female
Candidate : Mañwadu Tshilidzi

Position 1:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 720
District : Vhembe West
Circuit : Nzhelele West
School : Patrick Ramaano
Gender : Female
Candidate : Ganyane Mutshidzi Alucia

19. MEC Special Award

In this special category for 2019, we have decided to recognize a teacher who has produced a high performing candidate who outperformed all candidates in the Province in Xitsonga Home Language and Economics. The recipient of the MEC Special Award comes from Vhembe West District, Elim Circuit and Rivoni School for the Blind. And the teacher is **Ms. Mthombeni T.J.**

Premier, we have been appealing to our communities to work with the Department on the rationalization of schools with low enrollments, so that they are effectively merged with other schools. This process is done to advance quality education and not for personal and sentimental purposes as it is often misunderstood. The small schools have proven to be costly to the system, unsustainable and not viable. The following 9 schools, which enrolled a combined total of 65 candidates have achieved a zero percent pass rate due to low enrollments:

District	Circuit	Centre Name	2018 Wrote	2019 Wrote
Waterberg 2	Naboomspruit	Roedtan Combined	6	10
Mogalakwena	Matlalane	Kgabedi Secondary	10	13
Capricorn North	Vlakfontein	Makobateng Secondary	10	8
Capricorn North	Maleboho East	Makama Secondary School	10	3
Sekhukhune East	Mabulane	Kanama Secondary	6	5
Sekhukhune East	Malokela	Manawe Secondary	3	6
Sekhukhune East	Mohlaletse	Mokhulwane Secondary	22	1
Sekhukhune South	Lobethal	Matsebe Secondary	16	6
Sekhukhune South	Eensaam	Mahlaba Secondary	19	13

Efforts of the Department to rationalize these schools are often met with resistance and non-educational reasons which do not serve the best interest of learners who are at these schools. In the 2020 Academic year, the Department is going to ensure that all small and non-viable schools are merged to ensure that learners get quality basic education that they deserve.

Our focus will also be on improving support for grades R to 9 to ensure that the learners are able to attain foundational competencies such as reading, writing and enumerating. These are basic skills required for further learning in higher grades. Extra classes, which will require more funding in this academic year, will be rolled-out to support progressed learners in view of the fact that modularising is no longer going to be implemented in 2020. We have been investing a lot of resources in enrichment programmes and if we are to do more, we will need more funds as we move forward. Time on task will be regularly monitored in schools. Teachers must teach during their allocated time slots.

As the Department, we will work towards increasing enrollment of learners in technical subjects including agriculture, mining and tourism. We will continue to train teachers and support the school management teams to ensure quality curriculum delivery and school functionality. We appeal to SGBs, parents and community based organizations to help us to deal with social ills such as alcohol and

drug abuse, learner pregnancy, learner discipline and disruption of schools due to service delivery protests.

We also call on learners to respect their teachers and to desist from assaulting teachers and bullying other learners. The Department will strengthen the implementation of Section 16A and 58B of the South African Schools Act in as far as all the schools that underperformed. Underperforming schools will account on the causes for underperformance and how they plan to turn the situation around.

Programme director, we congratulate all the recipients of our Provincial awards and let others emulate you in the current academic year. Hard work starts on day one of schooling. At a national level we are encouraged that no single year goes by without our candidates representing the Province at the Minister's awards as top achievers.

We congratulate our top achievers who were invited by the Minister of Basic Education at the last night's announcement of the results. We are delighted that 9 out of 33 top achievers who participated in the National Awards are from Limpopo. Kindly be informed that Limpopo contributed the highest number of top achievers countrywide.

Our 9 top achievers featured in 7 out of the 11 categories that were up for grabs. We congratulate Lutendo Malaisi, from Thengwe Secondary who is the country's top achiever in Physical Science.

We also congratulate Tiyani Mbedzani from Rivoni School for the Blind who was awarded the country's top achiever in the special needs education category. We further congratulate Mukona Martin from Mbilwi, Trevor Mashabela from Rantobeng Secondary, Mutshidzi Alucia and Rotenda Mantsha from Patric Ramano Secondary, Phasani Nesta from Matavhel Secondary, Chauke Blessings from Dendron Secondary and Manwadu Tshilidzi from Mbilwi Secondary, who represented us in other categories and took positions two and three respectively. We are proud of you!

Premier, to our candidates who may not have made it this time around as desired; we encourage them to try again and to find out from their respective schools exactly what their results are and what they mean. We will be working with the Department of Social Development to assist candidates to deal with outcomes of examination. We direct school principals to be accommodative of the candidates who may opt to repeat full time. All candidates who wrote the 2019 October/November examinations and would like to improve or to finish off the remaining subjects are eligible to write examinations in May/June 2020. These candidates can only write the subjects they wrote or registered in 2019.

The due date for registration for May/June 2020 National Senior Certificate for both the 2019 full time and Repeat part time is 31

January 2020. The schools, circuit and district offices are ready to assist regarding queries that qualifying candidates may have.

Support for tuition is available for this group of learners in the form of the Second Chance Matric Programme. This includes candidates who modularized some subjects and the repeat part time candidates who qualify to write the 2020 May/June Examinations. All qualifying candidates must register for tuition support at their respective circuit offices from 13 January 2020, after which formal lessons at selected centres will commence on 3 February 2020 in all the 10 education districts.

Programme Director, as we conclude, we want to emphasize that education remains a societal issue which requires taking collective responsibility and participation from all of us. We are confident that working together, especially with our communities, we can do a lot more in delivering on our mandate. We remain on track and resilient in our mission to educate the nation by promoting access to and equity in the provision of education.

Premier, Mahlatji a Hlabirwa, we thank you for your guidance and leadership. Your words of encouragement today will serve as a source of inspiration as we forge ahead in our quest to deliver quality education across the province.

We take this opportunity to thank the Portfolio Committee on Education and the Provincial Legislature for their continued oversight and support.

We thank the Head of Department, Ms. Beauty Muthewana together with your Senior Management and Team Education for the sterling work, your determination and dedication.

We also express our gratitude to teachers and principals for your hard work. To the School Governing Bodies, parents, Teacher Unions, Professional Associations and social partners in education, we thank you for your support and cooperation that propel our schools into functional institutions.

We are equally grateful to our sponsors and even more to all of you who from time to time volunteer your time, skills and dedication to the education of children of this Province.

Let me finally thank my life partner, BoMalome bakhwii, Ntate Benny Boshielo for his unwavering support and understanding at all times. Gafela, on your big shoulders I stand! You are indeed the wind beneath my wings

Premier, the Academic Year 2020 is upon us and we look forward to working with all our stakeholders in turning our schools into centres of excellence. As a Department we are looking forward to a year of

success and academic excellence with no disruptions to teaching and learning across the Province.

Let's grow South Africa together!

Thank you very much.