

**BUDGET SPEECH, VOTE 3 FOR THE, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PRESENTED BY LIMPOPO MEC FOR EDUCATION, MS POLLY
BOSHIELO ON 07 MAY 2020 AT THE LIMPOPO PROVINCIAL
LEGISLATURE, LEBOWAKGOMO**

Honourable Speaker

Deputy Speaker

Honourable Premier

Honourable members and colleagues in the Executive Council

All protocol observed

It is a great honour and privilege to deliver the 2020/21 budget vote for the Limpopo Provincial Department of Education.

The Basic Education sector has the following six priorities:

- Early Childhood Development (ECD).
- Reading for Meaning
- Assessment and Accountability
- Infrastructure and Sanitation
- School Safety
- Skills for the Changing World

These priorities also get expression from Education Sector Plan “Action Plan to 2024, Towards the Realization of Schooling 2030”

Early Childhood Development (ECD)

One of the deliverables of this pillar is the training of Grade R Practitioners. 150 students are currently doing their Grade R diploma (at NQF Level 6) with North West University (NWU) and are expected to finish in the next two years. . In the financial year 2020/21, 150 schools will be supplied with outdoor equipment. Plans are underway to relocate the ECD function from Social Development to Education.

Reading for Meaning

Efforts continue to be made to promote reading for meaning among learners. Reading competitions in the General Education and Training Band (GET) will continue to be conducted in Home Languages. The Department will continue to celebrate the World's Read Aloud Day in an effort to promote across the province.

Assessment and accountability

The Department will manage the conduct and administration of the Grade 12 trial/preparatory and end of year examinations.

Infrastructure and Sanitation

The Infrastructure budget will be utilized towards the building of new and replacement infrastructure, upgrading of existing infrastructure; refurbishment, rehabilitation and renovations of existing infrastructure (including storm damaged schools), as well as maintenance and repairs of existing infrastructure.

In this financial year, Rivoni Special School for the Blind will have its hostels constructed as phase one of the project. 215 schools will also be provided with appropriate sanitation facilities.

School Safety

The department has developed a training programme on bullying and drug testing which will be rolled out in public ordinary schools.

Skills for the Changing World

By the end of the academic year 2020, 500 schools would be part of the entrepreneurship and employability education programme. Smart Classrooms will be established in 106 schools and 110 schools will pilot coding and robotics.

In addition to the six sector priorities, the province has identified the following priorities:

- **Learner Attainment Strategy** - The following interventions that will be used to support progressed and other learners are camps, enrichment classes, use of examination guide and past question papers, setting of common examination papers in grades lower than Grade 12, radio broadcasts and security consciousness training among invigilators and examiners.
- **Support Districts in the management, coordination and provisioning of quality education in the province** – The Department will support districts, circuits and schools in the planning and accountability processes to improve learner performance across the system.

- **Learner Transport** – The Department will continue to provide learner transport to qualifying learners. 42 407 learners are currently benefiting.
- **National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP)** – In this financial year, 3 723 quintiles 1 to 3 primary and secondary schools, 35 of which are special schools are benefiting from this program.
- **Learner Teacher Support Material (LTSM)** – LTSM remains our main resource in teaching and learning. About 1. 7 million learners in the province will receive LTSM for the 2021 academic year.
- **Provisioning, Training and Development** - In this financial year 50 488 educators will be trained on the implementation of the Quality Management System. 492 principals of underperforming schools will be trained on Curriculum Management and Support. 400 teachers and 100 subject advisors will be trained on subject content and methodology in Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Commercial subjects. The department will continue to use the 1% levy to fund bursaries and training programmes for officials.
- **Sanitary Dignity Programme** – The goal of the sanitary dignity programme is to restore the dignity and the self-esteem of girl learners in quintile 1 – 3 public ordinary and public special schools. This year, the process to outsource sanitary pads for girl learners will be concluded.
- **Norms and standards for School funding** – All public ordinary schools are funded in terms of the National Norms and Standards for School Funding as published by the Minister of Basic Education.

The Special Schools receive a special subsidy. The Department will continue to fully comply with prescribed funding formulae and funds are transferred to schools for the management and administration of schools.

Honourable Speaker, I present the 2020/21 budget for the Limpopo Department of Education.

The total budget for 2020/21 is R33. 794 billion. This budget is made up of R27 billion for Compensation of Employees; R3, 0 billion for goods and services; R2.5 billion for transfers and Subsidies and R1.2 billion for Education Infrastructure Grant (EIG).

Included in the budget are the following conditional grants:

- R1.37 billion for National School Nutrition Programme,
- R20.8 million for EPWP Social Sector Incentive Grant,
- R28.1 million for HIV and AIDS,
- R46.8 million for Mathematics, Science and Technology,
- R32.4 million for Learners with Severe to Profound Intellectual Disability and
- R2 million for EPWP Incentive Allocation.

Details of allocations per programme and Economic classifications are attached hereto.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we need to indicate that this budget speech is delivered at the time that the world is fighting the Covid-19 pandemic. This situation will create a new normalcy which might necessitate a review of the APP and the reprioritisation of our budget.

Let us heed the President's call. Keep safe, stay at home, wash your hands or sanitize, keep social distance and wear your mask.

Thank you very much. Re a leboga!

Summary of payments and estimates by programme: Vote 3-Education									
	Outcome			Main appropriation	Adjusted appropriation	Revised estimate	Medium-term estimates		
R thousand	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20			2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
1. Administration	1,683,490	1 694 288	2 015 765	2 003 693	1 983 485	1 983 485	1 908 301	2 114 652	2 214 392
2. Public Ordinary School Education	23 242 437	24 859 440	26 371 710	27 630 878	27 759 041	27 759 041	28 961 860	30 408 755	32 240 926
3. Independent School Subsidies	115 104	124 417	128 399	141 050	141 050	141 050	148 808	156 992	164 527
4. Public Special School Education	442 543	478 547	535 385	569 215	563 458	563 458	589 838	615 285	642 841
5. Early Childhood Development	139 309	148 789	159 999	204 519	204 519	204 519	216 800	238 066	248 514
6. Infrastructure Development	847 613	1 301 995	954 225	1 051 986	1 081 245	1 081 245	1 258 291	1 261 150	1 319 820
7. Examination And Education Related Services	374 104	412 944	513 581	689 667	705 386	705 386	709 750	727 533	760 470
Total payments and estimates	26 844 600	29 020 420	30 679 064	32 291 008	32 438 184	32 438 184	33 793 648	35 522 433	37 591 490