



SHAPING FUTURES THROUGH SKILLS: PROVINCIAL TECHNICAL PRACTICAL SKILLS COMPETITION

By Mashula Katlego

Limpopo Department of Education in partnership with Kagiso Trust, Sasol Foundation, Adendorff Machinery Mart and Nashua hosted Provincial Technical Practical Skills Competition at Tom Naude Technical High School in Polokwane, Capricorn South Education District.

The competition hosted participants from schools across the province. It was aimed at showcasing skills, talent, teamwork, problem solving and innovation of learners. The competition further embraced female learner participants and winners, emphasizing, Women's month theme that highlights the importance in empowering women and girls to participate fully in the economy and shape their communities.

Participants took part indifferent categories such

as Woodwork, Welding and Metal, Power Systems, Automotive, Mechanic, Electronics, Engineering and Graphic Design, Civil Services and Civil Construction, which gave learners the zeal to learn more and give it their all.

“This is a gathering of talent and skills , where hardworking meets opportunity. It is where we inspire one another to aim higher. Skills are still needed in the world of Artificial Intelligence.” said Deon Lottering, Deputy Principal Tom Naude Technical High.

Mr. Nxala, a representative of Kagiso Trust highlighted the importance of embracing challenges and opportunities in learning. “Every win big or small is worth celebrating. Today we celebrate participants spirit of learning, Resilience and

Dedication. Go out there and showcase your brilliance you know you have, your determination of skill and courage to step forward will shape your future and encourage others to Follow in your footsteps.”

Mr Maswime Tovhowani, Director for Mathematics, Science and Technology (MST), emphasised that the competition was about showcasing talents. “As the Department we appreciate all our sponsors support and input, may you continue doing that. To our participants it is not all about winning but showing off your talent and acquiring new knowledge, keep it up and make your talent work for you. To those who haven't won go and polish your skills and try again next year.”

Top 2 winners of learner participants and Top 1 winners of teacher participants are set to represent the Limpopo Province in the National Competition in October with all districts rooting for them.



The heartland of southern Africa - development is about people



BOOK REVIEW INSPIRES A CULTURE OF READING AND LEARNING TO HEIGHTENS THE READERS UNDERSTANDING

By Conny Mabunda

The ideas and voices came alive when 10 Education Districts subject advisors and partners like Limpopo Arts and Culture, Room to Read, Nal'ibali and Assitej gathered for the MEC book review club at the Royal Hotel in Polokwane. The event requires people to have information and summery about the book's author as well as to demonstrate the understanding of deeper meaning within the book

The featured book *To be a man is a mindset- Rise young man Rise "The future awaits your footprints"* was written and self-published by Sam Nyathi. The session encouraged the culture of Reading regarded as treasure and help individuals to listen, reflect and share ideas with others.

Remarks by the author included emphasis on the importance of encouraging children to read from a young age. Nyathi the author of the book

highlighted that books should inspire learners to dream, think critically and navigate life with confidence. Book reviews encourage listening, sharing knowledge and deeper understanding. "Bullying is persistent at schools and needs to be addressed as it often starts at home and continues at schools when left unaddressed.

Parents, educators and communities ought to create safe spaces where children feel valued, confident and motivated to reach their full potential. My book is aimed at Empowering a boy child and making a girl child feel safe," concluded Sam Ka Nyathi.

"This is a start to do more events like this. Learners should be taught to read for enjoyment then for meaning thereafter. The mandate is to get more learners involved," concluded Maseema.



The heartland of southern Africa - development is about people

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR EMPHASISES THE PLAY -BASED LEARNING ACTIVITY AS A CRUCIAL RESOURCE IN LEARNING

By Katlego Mashula



Building from Foundation Phase is intention as it prepares the child for school while improving his or her capacity to develop and learn. It was a day to remember when Limpopo Department of Education hosted an Early Childhood Development (ECD) Seminar on the importance of play-based learning at Mastec Institute, Seshego in Capricorn South Educational District.

Hosting the seminar was an important achievement for the department because it aimed "at Strengthening the foundation of quality learning and teaching in the province with a strong emphasis on the development of a child.

Learners learn through play and learning can be in a form of a song or storytelling. It is very crucial to introduce Science in ECD from an early age because learners have to be taught to interpret Discovery tables. "Said Shonisani Mulovhedzi,

University of Venda representative.

Among the attendees were ECD Practitioners from the Education Districts, stakeholders from Hope Worldwide South Africa, Thusanang Trust, Save the Children SA Edux SA, Social Workers, Institute for the Advancement of Women and Children and a representative from University of Venda.

"As Hope Worldwide our job is to empower caregivers through training, Responsive Care, playful learning and Emergent Literacy. Everyday is a learning day. We stimulate creativity in learners, a learner should be able to create a story through pictures. "Said Pfano Lusunzi, Hope Worldwide SA representative.

In the course of the seminar, MEC for Education in the province addressed and handed over educational toys to representatives of 250 ECD

Centres from all 10 Districts. She further highlighted on the launch of Banapele ECD Drive which focuses on supporting ECD's and ensuring that they are formally registered.

"This is a revolution of a young mind, as the Department we are ready to take over the ECD. To my ECD practitioners, you are the champions that

can make us win the ECD battle. Let's allow children to play as it builds language skills and creativity. It is important that ECD Centres are disability friendly to address challenges of disability in communities and that practitioners understand and are equipped with knowledge of the day-to-day activities and development of learners." Concluded MEC Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya.





Congratulations to our National Teaching Awards Winners

