



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

The official Internal Newsletter
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LIMPOPO CELEBRATES ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN 2025 NSC MATRIC IMPROVEMENTS

By Katlego Mashula, Conny Mabunda and Hanedzani Mbedzi

The Ranch- The spotlight was on learners whose individual journey reflects resilience, discipline and sacrifices. It was a moment of triumph and pride as Limpopo Department of Education MEC announced the 2025 National Senior Certificate (NSC) matric results at the Ranch Resort Hotel outside Polokwane. The Class of 2025 achieved an improved National Senior Certificate pass rate of 86,15 percent surpassing the previous performance, marking a commendable one-percentage point increase from 85,01 percentage of the previous year.

The 86,15 percent increase is a powerful symbol of consistent progress representing thousands of personal victories and a bright future full of possibilities. From a pass rate of 79,54 percent in

2023 to 85,01 percent last year, the journey has been one of steady and determined ascent. All the districts performed above 80%, demonstrating consistent efforts and commitment across the education system, from classroom to district and province.

Special recognition was given to the top-performing learners in the province, whose excellence efforts served as an inspiration to current and future learners. Their achievements demonstrated what can be attained through discipline, commitment and consistent academic support. The Top 3 performing learners in the Province are Munyai Maduvha from Thohoyandou Secondary, Vhembe East Education District, second position went to Fhedzisani Rodney Ndivhuweni

from Thengwe High, Vhembe Education District and the third position went to Christened Beukes from Merensky High Mopani West

The Head of Department, Mr Maropene Seshibe acknowledged the presence of all stakeholders and expressed satisfaction with the quality of education delivered across schools. Seshibe indicated that the Class of 2025, which began as the 2023 Grade 10 cohort, formed part of the department's targeted drive involving over 100 000 learners, with results steadily approaching the centenary mark. The cohort was supported through various administrative and academic interventions, resulting in strong performance outcomes. The department recorded achievements across 16 categories

In expressing his delight, Munyai Maduvha a top learner in the Province attributed the achievements to faith in God "It was not an easy journey but I had set a threshold that this is what I wanted to achieve, although there were days where I was exhausted however I still made it a point to push," said Munyai.

Mpho Ntjakata, a learner from Setotolwane Special School, one of the top three achievers in the public special schools category was delighted. Mpho aspires to further her studies at the University of Johannesburg where she intends enrolling for LLB. "I am truly honoured and grateful for this achievement. I thank everyone who supported me throughout my journey. To the matriculants of 2026 do not be disheartened by failure,

let it motivate you. Always strive for more and never settle for less," concluded Njakata.

In her address, the MEC for Education Mavhangu Lerule-Ramakhanya acknowledged the perseverance and determination of the Class of 2025, highlighting that the results reflect the hard work by learners, educators, school management teams, district officials and parents.

"The steady rise in performance confirms that the province is on the right path, while also recognising that more work still needs to be done. Today we have taken another firm step forward proving that our collective commitment to education is yielding solid, sustainable results. This commendable achievement is the direct results of a province -wide effort. The 86,15 percent is a monument build by an entire province" emphasised Lerule-Ramakhanya.

Limpopo Premier Phophi Ramathuba reaffirmed the provincial government's commitment to strengthening education outcomes, noting that education remains a key priority for socio-economic development.

Focus areas include improving learner performance, enhancing teacher support and ensuring sustainable improvement across all districts.

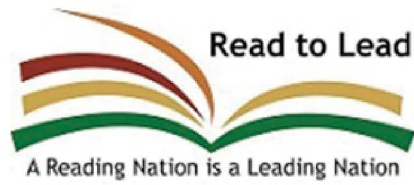
The Department remains resolute in its mission to further improve learner outcomes and to ensure that every learner is given an opportunity to succeed.





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2025 Top Achievers



Munyai Maduvha
Vhembe East Education District



Christene Beukes
Mopani West Education District



Fhedzisani Rodney
Ndivhuweni
Vhembe East Education District







MEC CONDUCTS SUPPORT VISIT TO UNDERPERFORMING BAKENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

By Conny Mabunda

The Limpopo MEC for Education Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya undertook a support visit to Bakenberg High School following concerns over the school's recent academic performance. The visit forms part of ongoing efforts to support underperforming schools and ensure a strong start to the 2026 academic year, which officially commenced on Monday 11 January 2026.

Bakenberg High School, once recognised as a strong-performing school recorded a 68% pass rate in the previous academic year, signalling a decline from its earlier achievements. The MEC acknowledged the school's past success and emphasised the need for collective effort to restore its academic standing.

During the visit, the MEC highlighted that the Mogalakwena District had previously achieved first position in the province, commending the district director's leadership and commitment. She further assured the school community that the department is aware of the challenges faced and will provide the necessary support to improve learner outcomes.

Addressing learners at the assembling point, the MEC encouraged them to believe in their potential and reject negative narrative that suggest they have no future. She described Limpopo

learners as "the best of the best" and expressed confidence that God's light will shine upon them if they remain focused and disciplined.

The MEC strongly condemned bad behaviour, stressing that violence, indiscipline and disrespect have no place in schools. She reminded learners that education is a cycle that begins with them and requires personal responsibility, adherence to school rules, and commitment to learning.

Emphasising the role of educators, the MEC stated that teachers are in schools to nurture and guide learners, while society expects learners to work towards becoming future professionals such as doctors, engineers and educators. With learning materials provided, learners were urged to give their best and make full use of available resources.

She also underscored the importance of Mathematics and Science, noting that Limpopo is known for strong performance in Gateway subjects.

Learners were advised to make informed subject choices that would shape their future careers and contribute meaningfully to the country's development.

“There are no shortcuts in life and success can only be achieved through hard work, discipline and consistent study. I wish all learners well for the academic year and encourage them to see education as a long-term race that requires perseverance and dedication,” concluded Lerule-Ramakhanya.





NOTICE

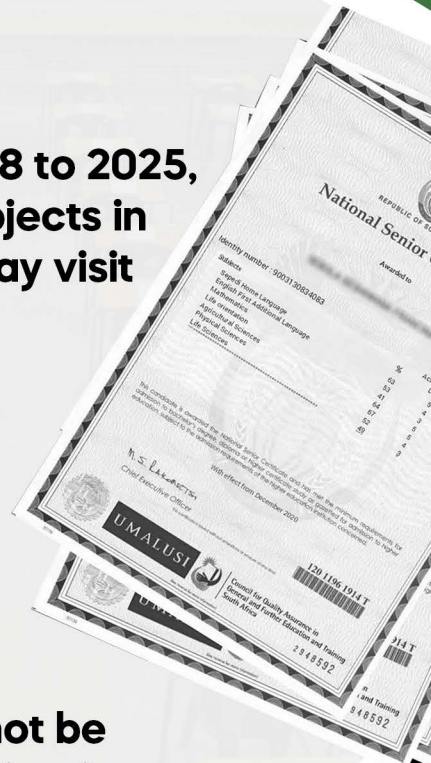
Candidates who wrote NSC from 2008 to 2025, and wish to re-write some of their subjects in June 2026 to improve their results, may visit the nearest Circuit Office to register.

Closing date: 06 February 2026

Documents required for registration:

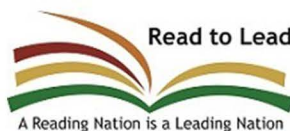
- ID copy
- Copy of NSC results statement

Candidates who did not register will not be allowed to sit for the June 2026 examinations.



MEC

Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya





COMMUNITY DRIVEN EARLY BIRD PROGRAMME INITIATIVE SUPPORT LEARNERS

By Katlego Mashula

Elim- Several schools in the Limpopo Province commenced on high note by engaging in “Early Bird” program with learners. The Early Bird program is designed to support each child’s optimal learning and development giving them a head start. In support of this initiative ,MEC Mavhangu Lerule Ramakhanya visited the “Early Birds” grade 12 class of 2026 at Elim Senior Secondary school in the Vhembe West Education District.

The visit highlights a proactive community-driven initiative where thousands of Limpopo learners have begun the academic year a week ahead of the official provincial schedule. Elim Senior Secondary school which commenced learning and teaching, has a total enrolment of 2,319 learners for the 2026, including 225 matriculants.

The early start is a community-led strategy, initiated by School Governing Bodies and parents to ensure learners gain momentum and excel in their critical final year of study at a secondary school. This practice is now a common phenomenon across the province, reflecting a shared commitment to academic excellence and a dedication to outstanding National Senior Certificate(NSC) results. All schools in the province will officially resume next week following the release of the 2025 NSC examinations on the 12 January 2026.

MEC Lerule -Ramakhanya praised the initiative and motivated the matriculants. ” It is inspiring to see communities taking ownership and leading the charge for their children’s education. This early start demonstrates the remarkable commitment of teachers, parents, and the learners themselves as they prepare for their final-year hurdle” she said.

She added,” I wish the Class of 2026 the very best. I have every confidence they will build on the success of previous cohorts and make us all proud” MEC’s engagement underscores the provincial department’s support for grassroots efforts to improve educational outcomes and foster a culture of diligence and achievements.







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DID YOU KNOW?

INTERESTING FACT

A Candidate may combine subjects from two or more NSC examination (eg. from 2019 to 2025) in order to improve his/her results

Submit your completed application form to the District Examination Office or Provincial Registry Office together with:

- Copies of statements of results to be combined
- Copy of ID
- Proof of Payment

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