



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY LIMPOPO MEC FOR EDUCATION MAVHUNGU
LERULE-RAMAKHANYA DURING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2024
NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE RESULTS, AT THE RANCH HOTEL,
POLOKWANE, LIMPOPO, 14 JANUARY 2025.**

Shonisani "Ashifa Shaba" Muleya, Programme Director

Premier, Dr Phophi Ramathuba

Members of Executive Council

Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature, Ms Makoma Makhurupetja

Deputy Speaker of Limpopo Legislature, Ms Tebogo Mamorobela

**Chairperson of the Education Portfolio Committee, Ms Nkakareng
Rakgoale and Committee Members**

All Members of Limpopo Legislature

Executive Mayor Polokwane Municipality, Cllr John Mpe.

Executive Mayor Capricorn District, Cllr Mamedupi Teffo

All Executive Mayors

All Local Municipality Mayors, Speakers and Chief Whips

**Chairperson-Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, Hosi Pheni Ngove
and Deputy Chairperson Kgoshi Rammupudu**

The Right Reverend, Bishop Barnabas Lekganyane (ZCC)

Bishop Joseph Lekganyane (ZCC St Engenas)

Bishop Jeremiah Masela (Roman Catholic Church)

Bishop Moriri (United African Apostolic Church)

**Bishop Naledzani Sikhwari- (South African Council of Churches) and
other Pastors**

Limpopo Director General, Mr Nape Nchabeleng
Department of Education Acting-HoD, Mr Martin Mashaba and all other
HoDs
Acting DDG Curriculum Delivery and Support, Dr Moses Simelane, other
DDGs and Senior Management of the Department
Provincial Secretary , Vha Musanda Madadze
Our Donors/ Partners in the Education Sector
Limpopo Education Development Trust Chairperson, Ms Pieters and
Trust Members
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TVET College Chairperson, Dr Pooe
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Public Service Commissioner, Mr Sekonya
SAPS Provincial Commissioner Lt. General Thembi Hadebe and all
District Commissioners
Social Cluster Sector Committee Members
Human Rights Commission
Moral Regeneration Members

Ndi Matsheloni

Thobela

Avuxeni

Good Morning

Aaaaaaaaaaaa

Programme Director, I am delighted and privileged to stand in front of you this morning once again, on the August occasion of the 2024 National Senior Certificate Announcement of the results. We do so as we continue to push boundaries and celebrate excellence. This is one occasion where one cannot afford not to be biblical and The Book of Proverbs, Chapter 9 Verse 10, come to mind. It says “The Fear of the Lord is the foundation of Wisdom”.

We are not here today because we are too wise or intelligent, but it is through the fear of the Lord that we have been made wise. Three years ago, I stood before you in this very same venue and declared that we are a Province on the rise. The declaration was made when the performance of the Province was not at the expected levels and we were at the tail end of performance nationally. I believed in the Caliber of senior managers in the office, our Districts Directors, Circuit Managers and Educators that together we were going to turn things around and be on the rise. Our foot soldiers, the educators, who are in the coalface needed a motivation and purpose to work harder and to deliver the Province out of doldrums.

Honourable Premier, we were together in Lebowakgomo in October 2024 counting down to Matric when we committed that the Province will perform above 80 percent. A target that was never achieved since the dawn of democracy. We were not thumb-sucking nor hallucinating, we trusted the work that was being done by the school Principals and the educators who kept their eyes on the ball. Those who did not believe are still searching for us at the wrong places. This reminds me of the women who were mourning the death of Jesus Christ and visited his grave only to be greeted by an angel. The women went to his grave despite the prophecy that he would rise on the third day. The book of Matthew says upon arrival, the angel said unto them “He is Not here, for He is risen as he said. Come see the place where the Lord Lay”. For those who read the bible, please check Matthew 28 verse 6.

It is still possible that there might be doubting Thomases looking for us in wrong places while we have long moved to a new and better place. Honourable members and Esteemed guests, we are No longer there, we have risen, you can even go and check the last Spot that we occupied for the longest time, We are a Province on the rise.

You may have heard it on Radio, seen it on TV or Social Media, I am today formally announcing that Limpopo is now performing above 80 percent. The class of 2024 made history by pushing boundaries and delivered on their promise. Honourable Premier, I present to you a whooping **85,01** percent pass rate for your dedicated Matric class of 2024, an improvement from **79,5** percent

by 5,5 percent. I am also delighted to announce that we have moved a step up from Position 7 that we occupied last year to Position 6. We are a Province on the rise.

We have delivered on our promise, but it is Not yet Uhuru. The class of 2025 is already hard at work to match if not surpass what their brothers and sisters achieved last year. We have a new target honourable Premier for this year, we are fearless and ready to punch above our weight. Our target for the class of 2025 is to be amongst the Top 5 performing Provinces when results are announced next year.

Programme Director, I want to take this opportunity to thank Parents, School Governing Bodies and all our stakeholders for trusting the process. Without you, we would have not been this far. Our Traditional leaders, Makgoshi and Pastors for your unwavering support. We always trouble you when the tough gets going and you are always available to shoulder the responsibility and provide support. Honourable Premier, members of the executive council and colleagues in the legislature, we humbly thank you for adopting schools, through you, we can indeed confirm that Education is a Societal Matter. A very special and warm appreciation to the Mayors and District Mayors in the house. The work that you are doing in your respective areas is immense and words will fail me if I were to venture into what you are doing.

To all our Sponsors in the house this morning, I sincerely thank you for your unwavering support, we are here because of you. Our stars will go home smiling because of the gifts that you donated as we appreciate the hard work. You have been with me throughout the year, donating shoes, classroom blocks, sanitary pads, lamp desks, tablets, laptops and bursaries just to name a few. You are the backbone of the sector, and without you, our results would not have improved.

Today is not a day for long speeches, we are here to honour and celebrate our stars, the class of 2024. The time that we have all been waiting for has arrived.

Programme Director, allow me to call on Stage the Acting HoD for the Department of Education, Mr. Martin Mashaba and the Director General Nape Nchabeleng to present the Top 3 Districts awards.

1. Top 3 Districts

Position	Wrote	%Pass	District
3	13 528	85.8	Capricorn South
3	14 984	85.8	Vhembe East
2	8 916	87,2	Mopani West
1	4 973	87,8	Mogalakwena

Congratulations to District Director Ndo Mangala and the team from Mogalakwena for clinching Top District in the Province.

The performance of the remaining Districts, in the order of their 2024 performance is as follows:

Position 5 Mopani East at 85.3%.

Position 6 is Waterberg at 85,0%.

Position 7 is Capricorn North at 84.9%.

Position 8 we have Vhembe West at 84,8%.

Position 9 is Sekhukhune East at 84,0%

Position 10 is Sekhukhune South at 80,0%.

2. Most Improved District

Let me invite on the stage the Chairperson of SCOPA, Hon. Esther Mokwele the Chairperson of the Education Portfolio Committee, Hon. Nkakareng Rakgoale, to present the Most Improved District.

The district that we are awarding improved its performance by 19.5% from 2022 to 2024. In 2022 they achieved 64.5% and in 2023 they performed at 74.7% in 2023. Now in 2024, the District is performing at 84.0%. Ladies and gentlemen, kindly welcome on the stage the most improved District, **Sekhukhune East District**.

3. Top 3 Circuits

Position	Bachelors	District	Circuit
3	699	Vhembe East	Malamulele Central Circuit
2	887	Capricorn South	Mankweng Circuit
1	1 511	Capricorn South	Pietersburg Circuit

In this category, Capricorn South and Vhembe East have stamped their authority over this award once again.

4. Most Improved Circuit

Let me call to the stage, MEC for Provincial Treasury Kgabo Mohoai, and MEC for Sports Arts and Culture, Funani Jerry Maseko

This Circuit improved its performance by 35.3%. The Circuit attained 57.0% in 2022 and now in 2024 they obtained 92.2%. From Sekhukhune East District, Ladies and Gentlemen, put your hands together for Ngwaabe Circuit.

5. Best Performing Independent School

Ladies and gentlemen, in this school, 436 candidates wrote, 230 achieved bachelor passes. From Vhembe East District, in Malamulele Central Circuit, the school is New Era College.

6. Best Performing Public Special School

Honourable Premier, all the 22 candidates who wrote at this school passed, and 12 of them achieved bachelor passes. The school is in Capricorn South District in Maraba Circuit, and it is none other than Setotlwane Secondary.

Please Ladies and Gentlemen allow me to welcome MEC Social Development, Florence Radzilani and MEC for Public Works, Sebataolo Ernest Tony Rachoene on the stage for the next category.

7. Top 3 Public Ordinary Schools

Honourable MECs, the three best performing public ordinary schools are:

Position	Wrote	Bachelors	District	Circuit	School
3	384	220	Vhembe West	Nzhelele East	Dzata Secondary
2	542	234	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary
1	494	307	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary

I now call on the stage the Executive Mayor of Polokwane Municipality, Councillor John Mpe and the Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District, Councillor Minah Bahula to assist me in the next two awards.

8. Top Three Mathematics Club 100 – Public Schools

Ladies and gentlemen, the schools that have performed according to the set criteria are:

Position	Achieved 50% and above	District	Circuit	School Name
3	116	Capricorn South	Mankweng	Marobathota
2	179	Capricorn North	Bochum East	Dendron Secondary
1	229	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary

9. Top Three Club 100 Mathematics and Physical Sciences – Public Schools

The schools are:

Position	50% and above in Mathematics	50% and above in Physical Sciences	Total Candidates	District	Circuit	School Name
2	179	116	295	Capricorn North	Bochum East	Dendron Secondary
1	229	199	428	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary

As was the case with the previous category, there are only two schools that met the criteria for this award.

It is my honour to call to the stage the MEC for LEDET, Vho Tshitereke Baldwin Matibe and MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Hon. Nakedi Kekana to present the following the Top Three Life Sciences Club 100 in Public Schools award..

10. Top Three Life Sciences Club 100- Public Schools

In this category the top three Club 100 Schools in Life Sciences we have a tie in position 3:

Position	Achieved 50% and above	District	Circuit	Centre Name
3	169	Mopani West	Rakwadu 2	Kgapane High
3	169	Capricorn North	Bochum East	Dendron High
2	183	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe Secondary
1	303	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary

For the next category, I call on the stage Executive Mayor of Vhembe District, Councillor Fridah Nkondo and Executive Mayor of Waterberg District, Councillor Morris Mataboge

10. Top Performing Teachers in Gateway and/or Selected Subjects

The teachers to be awarded in this category for the outstanding performance are:

Total candidates achieving at least 70%	Subject	District	Circuit	School	Names of Teachers
181	Geography	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary	Reineth Ratshilumela Tshivhalavhala DH
	Life Sciences	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary	Mulevhedzi Ronald Dakalo Ramuedzisi Nikiwe Mary-Gold Lidzhade Nyambeni Cedrick

76	Accounting	Capricorn North	Bochum East	Dendron Secondary	Madibana Matlou Eliphus Seshibe Mapula Grace Molepo Mokgatla Job
92	Mathematics	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary	Sikitha Nndondeni Ronald Ndou Nndivhaleni Victor Tshianeo Fhumulani Brenda
69	Physical Sciences	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi Secondary	Sankaran Banu Mudau Phathutshedzo Mercy Nedzingahe Engedzani

Subjects that have not been recognized have not met the prescribed criteria.

I am calling now to the stage, Bishop Naledzani Sikhwari and Hosi Penny Ngove chairperson of the House of Traditional leaders.

11.Top performing candidates in gateway and selected subjects

Subject	Mark	District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Surname and Names
Computer Applications Technology	288	Waterberg	Ellisras	Hoërskool Ellisras	Female	Tsibane Tshinakaho
Information Technology	282	Sekhukhune South	Grobiersdal	Hoërskool Ben Viljoen	Male	Gerber Kai Orion
Engineering Graphics and Design	286	Capricorn South	Lebowakgomo	Derek Kobe	Male	Kupa Khutso Phokgedi
Agricultural Sciences	294	Sekhukhune South	Tsimanyane	Ngwanakwena	Female	Sedutla Bontle Lordricia
History	258	Capricorn South	Seshego	Khaiso	Female	Mamatlepa Nteboge Annah
Mathematical Literacy	298	Sekhukhune South	Grobiersdal	Grobiersdal Academy	Male	Tau Michael Makopole

I now call on the stage the Executive Mayor of Mopani District, Councilor Pule Shayi and the Executive Mayor of Capricorn District, councilor Mamedupi Teffo to assist me with the next two awards.

12 300/300 Performing candidates in one Gateway or Selected Subject

Subject	Mark	District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Surname and Names
Business Studies	300	Mogalakwena	Bakenberg North	George Langa	Male	Mboweni Neo Obed
Business Studies	300	Capricorn South	Mankweng	Frans Mohlala	Female	Sehloka Kholofelo Lizzy
Business Studies	300	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Hoërskool Noorderland	Female	Chokoe Kgothatso Moditime
Business Studies	300	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Bokamoso	Female	Lediga Tshogofatso Samantha
Business Studies	300	Vhembe West	Nzhelele West	Patrick Ramaano	Female	Kone Rotondwa

Subject	Mark	District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Surname and Names
Business Studies	300	Vhembe West	Soutpansberg East	Tshikota	Female	Tabewa Kudzaishe
Business Studies	300	Vhembe West	Elim	Rivoni School for the Blind	Male	Kekana Kabelo Motaphi
Business Studies	300	Vhembe East	Dzindi	Khwevha	Female	Matika Thonifheni
Business Studies	300	Sekhukhune South	Hlogotlou	Mphezulu	Female	Chego Koketso Ntheto
Economics	300	Vhembe West	Soutpansberg West	Sinthumule	Male	Muofhe Rolivhuwa
Economics	300	Vhembe East	Tshilamba	Thengwe	Female	Nekhwalivha Khonani Erica
Economics	300	Mopani East	Sekgosese East 1	Sekgosese Secondary	Female	Phaswana Zwivhuya Penelope
Economics	300	Mopani West	Nkowankowa	Meridian Combined	Male	Mhlongo Tshembo
Geography	300	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Masedibo	Male	Sekhaolelo Lesetja Elias
Geography	300	Capricorn North	Bahlaloga	J H Moloto	Female	Mothata Noko Evelyn
Geography	300	Vhembe West	Lwamondo	Tshialvhutume	Female	Athinadzanga Khuthadzo
Life Sciences	300	Sekhukhune East	Tubatse	Lehlaba	Female	Mashego Makgotso Anastacia
Mathematics	300	Vhembe East	Mvudi	Liivha Combined	Male	Singo Singo
Mathematics	300	Sekhukhune South	Ngwaritsi	Malekutu	Male	Makola Ratsape Tihologelo
Physical Sciences	300	Mopani West	Nkowankowa	St. George College	Male	Rakgolela Ferdinand Refiloe

To assist with the following category, let me call the following Bishops to the stage.

Bishop of the United African Apostolic Church, Bishop Mureri and Roman Catholic Bishop Jeremiah Masela:

13.300/300 Performing candidates in two gateway and/or selected subjects

Subject 1	Subject 2	District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Surname and Names
Business Studies	Economics	Capricorn South	Pietersburg	Hoërskool Noorderland	Female	Molonyama Khomoto Patricia
Geography	Physical Sciences	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi	Male	Todani Nzumbulo
Mathematics	Physical Sciences	Vhembe West	Soutpansberg West	Sinthumule	Male	Makhura Bohlale Mpho
Mathematics	Physical Sciences	Vhembe East	Malamulele Central	EPP Mhinga	Male	Mushwana Rinono Nkateko
Mathematics	Physical Sciences	Vhembe East	Sibasa	Mbilwi	Male	Mudau Wangoho

May I request MEC for Health Dr. Dieketseng Mashego and MEC for COGHSTA, Basikopo Makamu to join me on the stage as we congratulate top candidates from our Independent schools.

14.300/300 Performing candidates in three gateway and/or selected subjects

Ladies and gentlemen, for the first time in the history of Limpopo results, we are presenting to you a candidate who has distinguished herself as an outstanding performer in the Business, Commerce and Management Studies subjects. This, she has done by answering correctly all the questions that were asked by Examiners in Business Studies, Economics and Accounting. In the past, this award was limited to the trio of Accounting, Physical Sciences and Mathematics. I take pride in introducing to you this special candidate:

Subject 1	Subject 2	Subject 3	District	Circuit	School Name	Gender	Surname and Names
Accounting	Business Economics	Economics	Waterberg	Nylstroom	Phagameng	Female	Chauke Khensani Nomsa

15. Top Three Candidates in Independent Schools

Position 3:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 674
 District : Capricorn South
 Circuit : Pietersburg
 School : Northern Muslim
 Gender : Female
 Candidate : Gani Ameera

Position 2:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 678
 District : Mopani East
 Circuit : Man'ombe
 School : Nkwangulatilo
 Gender : Female
 Candidate : Mabasa Katekani Faith

Position 1:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 695
 District : Mopani West
 Circuit : Nkowankowa
 School : St. George College
 Gender : Male
 Candidate : Rakgolela Ferdinand Refiloe

Speaker of the Provincial Legislature, Hon Makoma Makhurupetja and Deputy Speaker, Hon Tebogo Mamorobela, may you please join me on the stage for the next category.

16. Top Three Candidates in Public Special Schools

Position 3:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 350
 District : Vhembe West
 Circuit : Elim
 School : Rivoni School For The Blind
 Gender : Male
 Candidate : Nemavhandwe Laster Ndalamo

Position 2:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 484
 District : Capricorn South
 Circuit : Maraba
 School : Setotolwane Secondary
 Gender : Male
 Candidate : Malaka Given Mamogudi

Position 1:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 600
 District : Vhembe West
 Circuit : Elim
 School : Rivoni School for the Blind
 Gender : Male
 Candidate : Kekana Kabelo Motaphi

I now have the honour to invite the Premier of the Province, Hon. Dr. Phophi Ramathuba, Bishop Dr. Barnabas Lekganyane and Bishop Joseph Lekganyane to ascend the stage to congratulate the top three candidates in the Province.

17. Top Three Candidates in Public Ordinary Schools

Position 3:

Total Marks Obtained : 1 697
 District : Vhembe East
 Circuit : Malamulele Central
 School : EPP Mhinga
 Gender : Male
 Candidate : Mushwana Rinono Nkateko

Position 2:

Total Marks Obtained	:	1 714
District	:	Vhembe East
Circuit	:	Tshinane Circuit
School	:	Tshivhase
Gender	:	Female
Candidate	:	Maselesele Lalamani

Ladies and Gentlemen, I now have the honour to present to you the top luminary of the Province, as we observe the guard of honour. I humbly request all of us in the hall to rise and give a huge round of applause to the crème de la crème. This is a young gentleman, with a very bright future ahead of him.

Position 1:

Total Marks Obtained	:	1 731
District	:	Vhembe East
Circuit	:	Sibasa
School	:	Mbilwi
Gender	:	Male
Candidate	:	Todani Nzumbululo

18.MEC SPECIAL AWARD.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am presenting to you a phenomenal woman who stood firm and took the bull by its horns. Ka Sepedi re re ke Motshwara Thipa ka Bokgaleng. I am today honouring a Mbokodo who against all odds, agreed to take over a dysfunctional school. It was in 2017 February when she was appointed a Principal of a school that was performing at around 20 percent for over 10 years. Her presence was felt with a jump to 47,98% percent in 2017. The Principal immediately influenced the parents to take part in the day to day running of the school. The discipline of learners, attendance and punctuality eventually changed. In the following year, the school obtained 90,9% pass rate, an improvement of over 40 percent in just one year. The school is now one of the best performing schools in Sekhukhune South and have never performed below 90 percent since.

In 2019 - 92,9%

In 2020 - 97,1%

In 2021 - 93,90%

In 2022 - 93,80%

In 2023, the school obtained 100 percent pass rate, passing 87 out of 87 learners. Their matric enrolment in 2024 was 127. 126 learners passed, with just one fail, and 99 bachelors.

Ladies and gentlemen, please stand up, ululate, clap hands and appreciate from Moutse East Circuit, Kgothala Secondary School, Sekhukhune South District, **Ms. Mabena Johanna Hlangaye.**

Malibongweeeeeee

As I conclude, let me take this opportunity to thank the number 1 citizen of the

Province, Our premier for your unwavering support. Your support was visible from the day you took office in the 7th administration. You were very clear in the meeting held with the principals that underperformance will not have a space in your administration. You were with us as we were preparing learners for exams, walking side by side with the learners as they pledge and commit to a better result. We are looking forward for the motivation as we kick-start the back-to-school campaign tomorrow when we welcome thousands of our learners back in schools across the Province.

To my learners who did not make it, remember it is not the end of the world. Dust yourselves and make use of our programs that we have to improve your results. My learners who failed and but wish to improve your results, you have several options to pursue. Those of you who are still of school going age, you can return to class as fulltime candidates to repeat the year. You can also register as part-time learners to re-write your subjects during the May/June or October/November 2025 Examination Periods. We have the second chance Matric Programme with centers across our 10 Education District to support learners who need face to face learning support.

We are looking forward to another year of success and improved results across all grades.

I thank you...