



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

CITIZENS' REPORT FOR 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR

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The heartland of Southern Africa-development is about people

1. Foreword by the Member of the Executive Council, Ms. Polly Boshieo



We wish to take this opportunity to reflect on what we committed to do in the last budget vote speech in terms of excellence in provisioning of innovative quality basic education. We will assess the extent to which the Department of Education met the expectations of over 1.6 million learners that have been entrusted to us by parents, guardians and in particular the electorate in general.

The Covid-19 pandemic has caused severe damage and disruptions to the sector in terms of how we normally conduct our academic business and has taught us to find new innovative ways to teaching and learning. We cannot even begin to describe how the pandemic has unsettled our candidates, teachers, parents and officials, and the challenges they had to go through for us to be here today. It has been a whirlwind journey. The impact of the pandemic has been widely documented and as a sector, we were not spared. Our sector, like other sectors, was shaken to its foundation by this deadly and devastating pandemic. We lost educators, principals, circuit managers, professional and support staff to Covid-19 when we needed them the most to make the 2020 academic year a success. The class of 2020 have been impacted severely by loss of teaching time due to Covid-19 lockdown, affecting negatively on allocations for, among others, learner support. We send our heartfelt condolences to all the families that lost their loved ones to Covid-19. Amidst the pandemic, we continued to the best of our abilities to steer the ship, ensuring that learners return to school and ultimately sit for their examinations.

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We recognize that the National Senior Certificate results are an important indicator of the quality of our education system and by getting good education, our children can control their destiny. The class of 2020 was one of the strongest and resilient classes in the last five years. They survived the onslaught and the disruptive nature of the Covid-19 pandemic which no one ever predicted when the Department planned for the 2020 academic year. These learners produced better quality passes than the previous years. In 2020, the number of bachelor passes increased from 19 022 to 22 907. In percentage terms, it means the bachelor percentage performance increased from 26.8% to 29.1%.

The Minister of Basic Education has outlined six priorities of the educator sector one of which being the Early Childhood Development (ECD). The ECD is also one of the six pillars that have been outlined by the Premier in his first State of the Province Address (SOPA) as the head of the sixth administration in the province. One of the deliverables of this pillar is the training of Grade R Practitioners.

Covid-19 has been a stark reminder that we must continuously find new innovative ways to advance quality teaching and learning in line with the Fourth Industrial Revolution. It gave rise to definite areas that we can build on creatively, to catapult us into the future, equipping learners with knowledge and skills for a changing world. We have endured the greatest hardships and we remained resolute in our resolve that by getting good education, our children can control their destiny.

In conclusion, 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 during this unforgiving pandemic, we can do a lot more in delivering on our mandate. We also want to indicate that Covid-19 is likely to stay with us for the unforeseeable future and it is for this reason that we should stay alert. It means we must keep our planning within the sector to accommodate the unavoidable demands and changes brought by this global pandemic.



MEC Polly Boshielo
Department of Education

2. Introduction by the Superintendent – General, Ms. Onica Dederen



The Department will continue to make education accessible to learners in the Province through the provisioning of Scholar Transport, National School Nutrition Programme, Infrastructure and LTSM



Dederen K O
Superintendent- General

3. Strategic overview

3.1 Vision

Excellence in provisioning of innovative quality basic education.

3.2 Mission

To provide quality and innovative education programmes for learners in Grade RR to 12

3.3 Values

Services to Clients will be delivered in line with the following:

- **Excellence:** To be result oriented, cost effective, ensure superior performance and strive for client/stakeholder satisfaction;
- **Professionalism:** Carry out work with respect for others' rights as enshrined in the Constitution, accountability to authority and responsibility to clients;
- **Innovative:** Introducing or using new ideas or methods in carrying out one's responsibilities; and
- **Integrity:** uncompromising adherence to moral and ethical principles which leads to doing the right thing in all circumstances, even if no one is watching.

3.4 Service Delivery Model

- The department is made up of the following structures/ levels:
- Provincial office
- Education districts
- Education circuits
- Schools

4. Service delivery outputs

Area of focus	Accomplishments
National Senior Certificate (NSC)	<p>78 695 candidates wrote all the seven subjects.</p> <p>A provincial pass rate of 68.2% was achieved by the class of 2020.</p> <p>The number of bachelor passes increased from 19 022 to 22 907. In percentage terms, it means the bachelor percentage performance increased from 26.8% to 29.1%.</p> <p>The Diploma passes increased from 18 558 in 2019 to 18 588 in 2020.</p>

Area of focus	Accomplishments
Early Childhood Development: (ECD)	<p>This performance takes the Province to the 7th place in the national ranking, two places above where we were in 2019. i.e This performance takes the Province to the 7th place in the national ranking, two places above where we were in 2019</p> <p>150 students who are doing their Grade R diploma with the University of the North West are expected to finish in the next two years.</p> <p>146 are now in their third year and will be able to complete their studies in July 2022.</p> <p>All Grade R learners are now incorporated in our primary schools across the province and they have been provided with learning material and teaching aids, including toys. Face shields have also been provided as part of PPEs against Covid-19.</p> <p>The process to shift the ECD function from the Department of Social Development to the Department of Basic Education is on course. The deadline for shifting the function has been revised from 01 April 2021 to 01 April 2022 due to Covid -19.</p>
e-LEARNING	<p>A total budget of R 228 million was made available for the department to roll out its e-Learning strategy.</p> <p>A two-pronged approach was followed in rolling the E-learning strategy. 106 schools have been provided with the smart classrooms and the project was successfully launched at SJ Van Der Merwe Technical School</p> <p>A number of subject specialists have gone through a session on coding and robotics with Google-Afrika while ICT champions have also had a similar session with UNISA.</p>
Enhancing school functionality and circuit management	<p>The department strives to improve the quality and functionality of public schooling through the development of education institutions, management structures and coordinated delivery of programmes and activities across the system.</p>

Area of focus	Accomplishments
Learner and Teacher Support Material (LTSM)	<p>Norms and standards used by schools to pay for their operational costs were published through the Government Gazette by the Minister of Basic Education.</p> <p>School Governing Bodies who play a critical role in the management of the governance functions in schools were established as well as Representative Council of Learners to encourage good relationships between learners and educators.</p> <p>568 vacant principal posts were advertised and it is expected that these will be filled by 31 March 2021. Additional 263 posts of principals, which became vacant in the 3rd and 4th Quarters, will be advertised and filled in the 1st Quarter of 2021/22. In addition, the Department is in the process of filling 25 Circuit Manager posts in order to ensure that our circuits are able to coordinate and provide support to schools.</p> <p>1 679 educators below the age of 30 years were appointed.</p> <p>Initiatives such as NSFAS, Fundza Lushaka Bursary Scheme and Department Bursary Scheme, produced 449 graduates in 2019 and they were employed in our schools in 2020.</p> <p>Through the Basic Education Employment Initiative, 52 055 posts were created and were filled by qualifying youth between the ages of 18 and 35 years old. This programme was implemented since the beginning of December 2020 and it exposed young people to various forms of training that empower them and improve their prospect of employability. To date, in Limpopo, 2 258 jobs from both quintile 4 & 5 and independent schools have been saved by this initiative.</p> <p>LTSM, which includes textbooks and scholastic stationery, has been procured for all the Public Ordinary and Special schools in the Province.</p> <p>Four of our local small businesses benefitted from the sub-contracting arrangement for the packaging and delivery of stationery to schools. Two of these are owned by women, one is owned by a young person and the other by a person with disability.</p>

Area of focus	Accomplishments
National School Nutrition Programme	1 627 826 learners were served with meals. 10 374 jobs were created for Voluntary Food handlers whose responsibility was to cook meals for learners.
Learner transport	42 407 learners across the Province were provided with transport
Water and sanitation	With the assistance of the Department of Basic Education 522 water tanks and mobile toilets were provided to needy schools. Through its in-house technical capacity, the department is implementing a programme of providing permanent water and 31 sanitation infrastructure in 215 schools across the Province. 159 schools out of the 215 have been awarded to contractors and construction is underway. The remaining 56 schools have been re-advertised because contractors turned down appointment letters as a result of their businesses having been affected by Covid-19 pandemic. The Department of Basic Education (DBE) has prioritized 203 schools out of 300 to be provided with proper sanitation facilities and clean running water, through the Sanitation Appropriate for Schools (SAFE) programme.

5. Areas of under – achievement

Area of underachievement	Reasons for underachievement and possible solutions/
Migration of ECD function from the Department of Social Development to the Department of Education	The two Departments could not move with the necessary speed to conclude the process due to Covid-19. The deadline has been revised from 01 April 2021 to 01 April 2022. In the meantime, all Grade R learners are now incorporated in our primary

<p>Undertaking Primary school reading activities</p>	<p>schools across the province and they have been provided with learning material and teaching aids, including toys.</p> <p>Due to Covid-19 pandemic, the Department could not undertake reading activities which include spelling BEE, storytelling and poetry sessions as well as reading competitions. All reading activities have been integrated into a single Reading Plan which included Reading for Pleasure and Reading for Academic Purposes.</p> <p>A blended innovative approach will be used to roll out the Reading Plan.</p>
<p>Implementation of National School Nutrition Programme</p>	<p>The feeding of learners was affected by the Covid-19 lockdown regulations and no feeding took place during that time. Equal Education took the Department of Basic Education to court to compel the provincial departments in all nine provinces to feed learners even when they are not at school. In some schools, food parcels were prepared but learners did not pick them up.</p> <p>Also during the Covid-19 lockdown, service providers were not delivering food to schools and as a result had no income. This resulted in some small suppliers not being able to recover on time when feeding was resumed. Some of them also had problems in providing food parcels to the learners.</p> <p>The extension of the 2020 school calendar also resulted in the department having to provide food parcels to learners for the period which they were supposed to have been at school. This created a challenge to some of the service providers as some of the items that were supposed to be included in the food parcels were not available in the market</p>

Provision of Water and sanitation	159 schools instead of 215 schools were provided with permanent water and sanitation infrastructure. The remaining 56 schools have been re-advertised because contractors turned down appointment letters as a result of their businesses having been affected by Covid-19 pandemic.
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6. Service delivery challenges and possible solutions

- 6.1. The process to shift ECD function from the department of Social Development to the Department of Education could not move with the necessary speed due to Covid-19.
- 6.2. Most of the infrastructure projects could not be undertaken due to Covid-19 and the lockdown regulations especially at level 5. The construction industry was also not spared. The implementation of the projects was pushed back due to budgets having been re-prioritized to fund Covid-19 essentials. The major challenge that the Department is experiencing is that as the infrastructure backlogs are being addressed a setback is annually encountered due to storm damages to schools.
- 6.3. Ageing staff members especially at SMS level and school level.
Between the ages of 46- 64, there are 52 SMS members out of 61. This translates to 85.25%. There is no SMS member who is below 35 years of age. The appointment of young people at this level will be prioritized.

The fact that 11 018 of our educators in the employment of the department are aged between 55 – 65 years, which is within the pensionable age, continues to be a concern for the Department. What is more worrying is that 10 988 are between the ages of 46 – 50 and 14 873 are between the ages of 51-55. It therefore means that 36 879 educators are between the ages 46 - 64. Out of the 2021 post basket, it means 71.26% are between the ages 46 – 64. The department will continue with its drive to recruit young entrants into the teaching profession in order to sustain the system in future.

7. Future plans of the department

8. OUR SERVICE POINTS

8.1 Head Office

Name of Branch	Physical Address	Postal Address	Telephone number	Responsible person
Office of the MEC	Cnr. 113 Biccard & Excelsior Streets, Polokwane	Private Bag X 9489 Polokwane 0700	0-5 290 7625 / 7624	Mr. M P Maseema
Office of the Superintendent-General	Cnr. 113 Biccard & Excelsior Streets, Polokwane	Private Bag X 9489 Polokwane 0700	0-5 290 7702 / 7757	Ms. K O Dederen
Curriculum Delivery and Support	Cnr. 113 Biccard & Excelsior Streets, Polokwane	Private Bag X 9489 Polokwane 0700	0-5 290 7858	Dr. K Mphahlele
Institutional Governance, Coordination and Support	Cnr. 113 Biccard & Excelsior Streets, Polokwane	Private Bag X 9489 Polokwane 0700	0-5 290 7655	Mr. M T Mhlongo
Corporate Management	33 Biccard Street, Polokwane	Private Bag X 9489 Polokwane 0700	0-5 284 6500	Mr. K M Mashaba
Financial Management Services	Cnr. 113 Biccard & Excelsior Streets, Polokwane	Private Bag X 9489 Polokwane 0700	0-5 290 7717	Ms. Y S M Mathabatha

8.2 District offices

NAME OF DISTRICT	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	CONTACT NUMBERS
Capricorn North district	Corner Yster Street & Bleiberg, Ladana, Polokwane	C15 285 7300
Capricorn South district	Old Parliament building, Lebowakgomo	C15 633 9701
Sekhukhune South district	Old Parliament building, Lebowakgomo	C15 633 7154
Sekhukhune East district	2013 Aloe Street, Alice Rich West, Burgerstort	C13 231 0100
Mopani East district	Old Parliament building Giyani Main Road, Giyani	C15 811 7700
Mopani West district	27 Peace Street, Tzaneen	015 811 7700
Vhembe East district	Old Parliament building, Block D, Thohoyardou	015 962 2883
Vhembe West district	Old Parliament building, Block D, Thohoyardou	015 962 2883
Waterberg district	Corner Thabo Mbeki and Rivier Streets, NTK Euiding, Modimolle	014 718 1500
Mogalakwena district	Mokopane EMPC, Ruphus Seakamela Street, Mahwelereng	015 483 7500

9. CITIZEN'S RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

As our customers, you have the following rights and obligations:

Your Rights:

- The right to be treated with dignity and respect;
- The right to receive services
- The right to full information; and
- The right to receive an apology if a promise has not been fulfilled.

Your Obligations:

- To treat our learners and staff with dignity and respect;
- To protect our learners and staff against any form of violence or abuse and
- To contribute towards the improvement of education system through suggestions and inputs to the Provincial policies or any form of consultation with the community.

10. GENERAL ENQUIRIES

All queries can be directed to:

The Superintendent – General

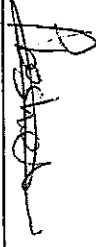
Private Bag x 9489

Polokwane

0700

OR

Premier's Hotline number which is 0800 364 729



MEC Polly Boshieho
Department of Education

17/05/2022

Date