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05 February 2018

Immediate Release

PRESS STATEMENT

2018 Mayoral Matric Awards

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The 2017 Mayoral Matric Awards Ceremony was held at Seleka Community Hall on 02 February 2018.

Lephalale Local Municipality Mayor, Moloko Jack Maeko, in partnership with the Local Department of Education and stakeholders (Eskom, Exxaro, Enel, ABSA, AFRIMED etc) honoured matriculants who performed well in the 2017 Final Matric Examinations and schools which excelled.

Hoerskool Ellisras in Ellisras Circuit, Kodupo Secondary in Palala North Circuit and Diammona Secondary School in Palala South Circuit are the top three schools that performed well. Lephalale improved from 58.78% in 2016 to 68.24% in 2017 with a 9.45% improvement.

Speaking during the ceremony, The Mayor, said there is no better way of honouring Former President, Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu who fought tirelessly to ensure that there is access to education for all.

"This is the year of Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu, a year of renewed hope and dreams. The year in which we must use education as the most powerful weapon which can change the world. The fundamental truth is that without education there can be no development or sustainable Radical Economic Transformation. Education is the central and number one priority in all our efforts to a better future. Without quality public education there can be no future. The most serious investment any nation can ever make is to educate its youth".

The Municipality has approved the establishment of a Mayoral Bursary Fund in 2013 and since its inception more than 50 local students have



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benefited and are currently studying at institutions like University of Limpopo, University of Johannesburg, Tshwane University of Technology and Lephalale TVET College.

According to the Mayor, the fund is aimed at assisting needy students to study courses aligned with the development of Lephalale. He acknowledged and appreciated the continuous support from progressive stakeholders who contribute towards the development of education.

"The Municipality will continue to support all educational programmes and we therefore urge all circuits to prioritize on improving the quality of learning and teaching in the early grades, so as to ensure that learners are equipped with the requisite skills to cope with the curriculum of higher grades".

"In partnership with our investors we have numerous continuous programmes that includes school refurbishments, donation of learnersupport materials and bursaries for matriculants. We should continue to give the people of Lephalale good governance. Let us serve our people with humility, integrity, and unwavering commitment. We must serve them with no expectation of reward or recognition".

Under the Mayor's Theme "**Together advancing peoples power in every community through education**" the Education Department Representatives, students bodies and other stakeholders acknowledged the Mayor's contribution and efforts towards the development of education and have pledged to work hard in order to reach the 80% pass rate as enshrined in the Limpopo Development.

Queries:

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