



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

ONLINE NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2020

BACK TO SCHOOL 2020



Dendron High School learners listen attentively as MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale encourages them to achieve a 100% pass rate in the 2020 matric examinations and beyond. The school obtained a pass rate of 97.2% in the 2019 exams. The MEC's visit was part of the Province-wide back to school campaign to visit well-performing and under-performing schools.

A Caring and Self-Reliant Society

Back to school 2020



The MEC for Social Development, Nkakareng Rakgoale addresses Dendron Secondary School learners.

Photo: Adèle van der Linde

Every year, at the start of the academic year for public schools, the Members of the Executive Council (MECs) are deployed to various schools in the Province, to ensure that schools open on time, learners and staff commence activities on time and that learning can start unabated. The MEC for Social Development Mme Nkakareng Rakgoale on the 15th of January 2020 was deployed to two top performing schools in Limpopo's Capricorn District, namely Dendron Secondary School with a pass rate of 97.2% in 2019 and Nkgopoleng Bakone Secondary school with 97% pass rate. During her visit, she encouraged and motivated school management and learners to continue working hard in contributing to the high pass rate, but also to strive for a 100% pass rate.

On the 16th of January, the focus shifted to under-performing schools and MEC Rakgoale was deployed to two schools in Vhembe: Mamvuka Secondary School with a pass rate of 61.4% in 2019 and Tswime Secondary School (37.9%). A number of challenges at the schools were highlighted by the respective principals and teachers and include gangsterism, substance abuse and lack of resources. MEC in her address to the learners asked them to double their efforts to pass matric and had a message of encouragement especially for those matrics who were repeating their year.

Back to school 2020 continued



Interacting with the learners of Nkgopoleng Bakone (top) and Mamvuka Secondary Schools (left). MEC, during her deployment to top- and under-performing schools, encouraged learners to stay in school, keep away from illegal activities and work towards passing matric.

Photo: Adèle van der Linde

Back to school 2020 continued



Interacting with the learners of Tswime Secondary School.

Photo: Adèle van der Linde



A Caring and Self-Reliant Society

GBV VICTIM'S FAMILY GETS NEW HOUSE

As you are reading here, 6 women in Limpopo Province have been killed by their partners in gender based violence related murders, since the start of January 2020. That excludes horrific incidents of gender based violence that occurred late last year. One such case in November 2019, was that of 35-year old Portia Ramakahvi, of Ha-Mutsha, who was allegedly hacked to death by her partner, leaving behind two beautiful girls aged 6 and 10.

A Good Samaritan by the name of Ms. Zola Khan, a local businesswoman, heard of the terrible incident and the fact that the late Ms. Ramakavi's father is a person with disability. This prompted her to offer to build the family a home at the site where currently there is only a humble homestead. MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale joined Makhado Mayor, Cllr. Samuel Munyai, Ms. Khan, Speaker of the Legislature, Ms. Mavhungu Lerhuli and family members for a sod-turning ceremony at the Ramakavi home. MEC once again appeals to community members to take a stand against gender based



MEC Rakgoale joined by Rinae Singani from the Rinae Singani Foundation (yellow shirt), Ms. Zola Khan (in blue hijab), Ms. Mavhungu Luruli (next to MEC), Cllr. Samuel Munyai and family members at the sod-turning site.

Photo: Adèle van der Linde

MEC says. At the time of the ceremony, construction had already commenced at the home of Precious Ramabulana, who was brutally murdered at her off-campus residence in Botlokwa, also in November last year.

violence and for women in abusive relationships walk away before it's too late and to seek professional help from the array of services offered by government. "The continuing killings and abuse of women and children constitutes gross violation of human rights and the law and as such, we are calling on all our communities and men in particular, to join hands with government in clamping down gender based violence. The violence meted against women and children is tearing apart families, as some of the victims are bread winners who are supposed to take care of their children",

MEC VISITS BEREAVED FAMILIES



MEC Rakgoale joined by Makhado Mayor Cllr. Samuel Munyai addresses mourners at Rabali Village.

Following a spate of killings of women by their partners, MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale recently visited the family of one of the latest victims of gender based violence, 35-year old Tshamaano Sitlari of Rabali Village in the Makhado Municipality. Ms. Sitlari was killed by her partner in Musina during the weekend of 24 to 26 January 2020. She apparently even obtained a protection order against the perpetrator before he allegedly murdered her. MEC Rakgoale was accompanied by Makhado Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr. Samuel Munyai.

MEC has, during this occasion, commended the social workers who are always ready to assist the families and other affected parties with psychosocial counselling, after these horrific events where families lose a loved one due to murder or accidents.



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