Smooth Start to the KZN Matric Examination

*Media Briefing and Monitoring on the First Day - NSC Examinations*

*by the HOD, Nkosinathi SP Sishi, [PhD]*

A Media Briefing was called early this morning by the Head of Department in Education, Nkosinathi SP Sishi, [PhD] on the First Day of the 2012 National Senior Certificate Examinations at Truro House.

The HOD said a total of 132 216 full time candidates and 24 773 part time and repeater candidates have registered with 1 721 full time examination centres registered throughout the province.

The Class of 2012 sat for their first paper today, 22 October 2012, English First Additional Language P1 with 111 837 candidates writing in the province. The afternoon paper a total of 4 073 candidates wrote the Dramatic Arts paper.

The examination concludes on 28 November 2012 with 1 330 candidates writing the Electrical Technology paper.

“The Department has obtained weekly weather forecasts and district have hired 4x4 vehicles to deliver question papers to examination centres that will be difficult to reach in case of inclement weather. The south African Polices Services are in constant communication with the Department to stem any disruption at the examination centres during the writing phase of the examination”, said Nkosinathi SP Sishi, [PhD].

Marking of the Examination

There will be 23 marking centres utilized as venues for marking will commence on 02 December 2012 and conclude on 11 December 2012. There will be 76 Chief Makers, 203 Deputy Chief Markers, 1 512 Senior Markers and 7 650 markers appointed to undertake the marking.

The capturing of the written marks will commence on 04 December 2012 and conclude on 16 December 2012. The Standardization Meeting will take place on 21 December 2012 with the final Umalusi approval on 27 December 2012.

Teacher Unions in collaboration with the Department ran an intensive Matric Intervention Programme [MIP] since the beginning of the year to prepare the Class of 2012. The pillars if the MIP were the following:

1. Analysis of the 2011 NSC results and identification of gaps in subject content
2. Supplementary tuition classes in the form of:
   I. Saturday Classes
   II. Winter Classes
   III. Spring Classes
IV. Revision classes

3. Assessment: the Department conducted common tests to ensure that learners could be exposed to quality assessment to support their learning.

4. Supplementary LTSM
   I. In addition, the Department provided each Grace 12 learner with a Study Skills booklet in preparation of the examinations.
   II. Secondly, learners were provided with exemplar questions papers to assist them in their studies and preparations.

The official release of results by the Minister of Education will be on 02 January 2013. The MEC for Education will release the results on 03 January 2013. The results will also be available at schools on 03 January 2013.

We as a Department are fully satisfied with the preparation of the Class of 2012 and on behalf of the Department and the MEC for Education I wish all Matric candidates and learners good luck in their examination.

Immediately after the Media Briefing the HOD and his entourage visited three schools under the Umlazi District. The first school visited was Ogwini Comprehensive Technical High School in Umlazi. A total of 437 learners registered to write the NSC Examination. To welcome the HOD was the Principal, Dr Vusumuzi Simon Dlamini who served for 14 years as the head of the school. He started teaching in 1985. The HOD was accompanied by officials from the Department of Basic Education, Dr Morgan Naidoo.

The monitoring team quietly slipped into the two classrooms and had a walk about in discussion with the Principal, Deputy Principal, Administration, Mrs Val Cullen and Examination Officials Mr Ray Peniston, Deputy Manager: Examinations.

The HOD observed the learners, checked on the invigilators, matric candidates present and the reason for absent candidates. His main concern was to address deregistration of learners ahead of the examination to ensure accurate statistics. A few learners could not make the examinations due to ill health and teenage pregnancy, etc.

“It is the responsibility of the principal to inform the Department in writing to deregister candidates”, said Nkosinathi SP Sishi [PhD].

The HOD warned principals to write to the Department to deregister learners timeously. Interestingly the Principal, Dr Dlamini promised the HOD for a 100% pass. They started their teaching career studying at Madadeni Teacher Training College and completed training in 1984 in the Secondary Teaching Diploma [STD]. They together started teaching in 1985.

“Learners have to have confidence in what we taught them and apply it thoroughly in their examination”, said Dr Dlamini.

Covering the monitoring from the media was Ms slindile Maluleka from Daily News and Ms Leanne Janeen from the Natal Mercury.
Hlengiwe Gwala 12E like to study Psychology, Thobisile Khowa, 12 A to study Marketing and Thabiso Mbili, 12 E to study Dentistry.

Nkosinathi SP Sishi [PhD] shake hands with the Principal, Dr Vusumuzi Simon Dlamini, looking on are Mr Ray Penison, Mrs Val Cullen, Dr Morgan Naidoo.