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KZN EDUCATION BUDGET SPEECH



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KZN EDUCATION BUDGET SPEECH

On Friday the 6th of May 2022, the MEC, Mr Kwazi Mshengu presented the KZN Department of Education 2022 /2023 Budget Speech at the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature in Pietermaritzburg. The MEC detailed how the 2022/2023 budget will fund programmes such as the academic improvement plan, infrastructure delivery, Early Childhood Development, ICT roll out programme and many others, with 90% of the budget allocation being used to compensate the employees of the Department. “The budget we are tabling today is a forward march on our journey to providing quality education” said the MEC as he began his budget speech.

for learners. “It is our aim that in the next few years this province should be ranked among the most digitally enabled provinces in our country,” said the MEC, The MEC also spoke about an establishment of a modern contact centre that will be housed at Dokkies, in Glenwood, Durban, which he has described as a “One-Stop-Information Centre”. He also spoke about reviving school sports and he also mentioned that the department will complete all infrastructure projects that were not completed in the previous financial year. “Our educators are our foot soldiers who ensure, sometimes under difficult conditions, that our future leaders are empowered to face the world” said the MEC as he ended his address before paying tribute to the late former Head of Department, Dr Enock Nzama.

A total of R57 480 788 000 has been allocated to the KwaZulu-Natal department of Education. R2 291 617 000 will be allocated to Administration, R45 877 836 000 for Public Ordinary School Education, R95 799 000 for Independent School Subsidies, R1 420 736 000 for Public Special School Education, R1 930 284 000 for Early Childhood Development, R2 700 811 000 for Infrastructure Development and R3 163 705 000 for Examination and Education related services. “We remain true to the commitment to eradicate all pit latrines in the province by the end of this year,” said the MEC, who also spoke about the introduction of coding and robotics as a subject in schools around the province and also spoke about turning schools into “innovative hubs” equipped with state of the art technology and learning tools



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KWANYAMAZANE PRIMARY SCHOOL INSPECTION



Walkabout at Kwanyamazane Primary School

The MEC, visited KwaNyamazane Primary School in Mtubatuba, under Umkhanyakude District on the 24th of May 2022 to conduct an inspection of the school. During the 2022/23 Budget Speech, MEC Kwazi Mshengu spoke about many infrastructure programmes that the Department is going to embark upon. KwaNyamazane is one of the schools to be assessed for the infrastructure damages and it is one of the schools that will soon be built by the Department.

KwaNyamazane Primary School was established in 1993 when the community came together and built reed and thatched classes until the Department of Education took over in 1997. Mr Makhasi Ngema, the Principal of the school, reached out to the District and the Department, where the Department donated 9 mobile classes for the school to continue its teaching and learning. " We will not repair the school, we will demolish the entire infrastructure

and rebuild the school from scratch. The contractors will be here to start in October 2022. We will build the state-of-art school," said the MEC.

When the school is finished, it will have a computer room and a media centre, all the classrooms will have white interactive smartboards and projectors, chalk wont be used anymore. A new kitchen will be built and a new fence will be installed around the entire school. All the teachers will receive laptops and the entire school will be connect to a WIFI. This will make teaching and communication easy for the teachers. The Principal and the teachers were delighted to hear the exciting news. The Department is determined to make sure that the resources that are available in schools in urban areas are also available in schools in rural areas. In closing, the MEC thanked the teachers for the dedication they have for teaching and shaping the future of the kids.



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”
 Kwazi Mshengu

The ICT Program Roll out



The MEC, Kwazi Mshengu together with Mr Nksosinathi Ngcobo, the Head of Department, visited Ubuhlebesizwe Secondary School in Ndwedwe under the Ilembe District on the 28th of April 2022 to assess the running of the Information and Communication Technology program (ICT). ICT is the mode of education that uses information and communications technology to support, enhance and optimize the delivery of information to learners, it has been proven that ICT has improved student learning and better teaching methods for teachers.

The principal, Miss Zama Dube said, " we are so delighted, happy and we are thankful for this gift from the Department. The school has 15 projectors and 15 whiteboards, 1 interactive smart screen, 7 access points, 21 laptops for educators and 40 laptops for learners and 1 laptop that controls the connectivity. The school also has a science lab. This will enable learners to learn Computer Applications Technology (CAT) and educators to have virtual meetings,

communicate with other schools and compile lessons. The MEC urged the learners to take advantage of the freedom they have now. He said, " as the Department of Education we took the resources that were only found in urban areas to rural areas, to enable learners from the rural areas to get the same education".



Briefing at Ubuhlebesizwe Secondary



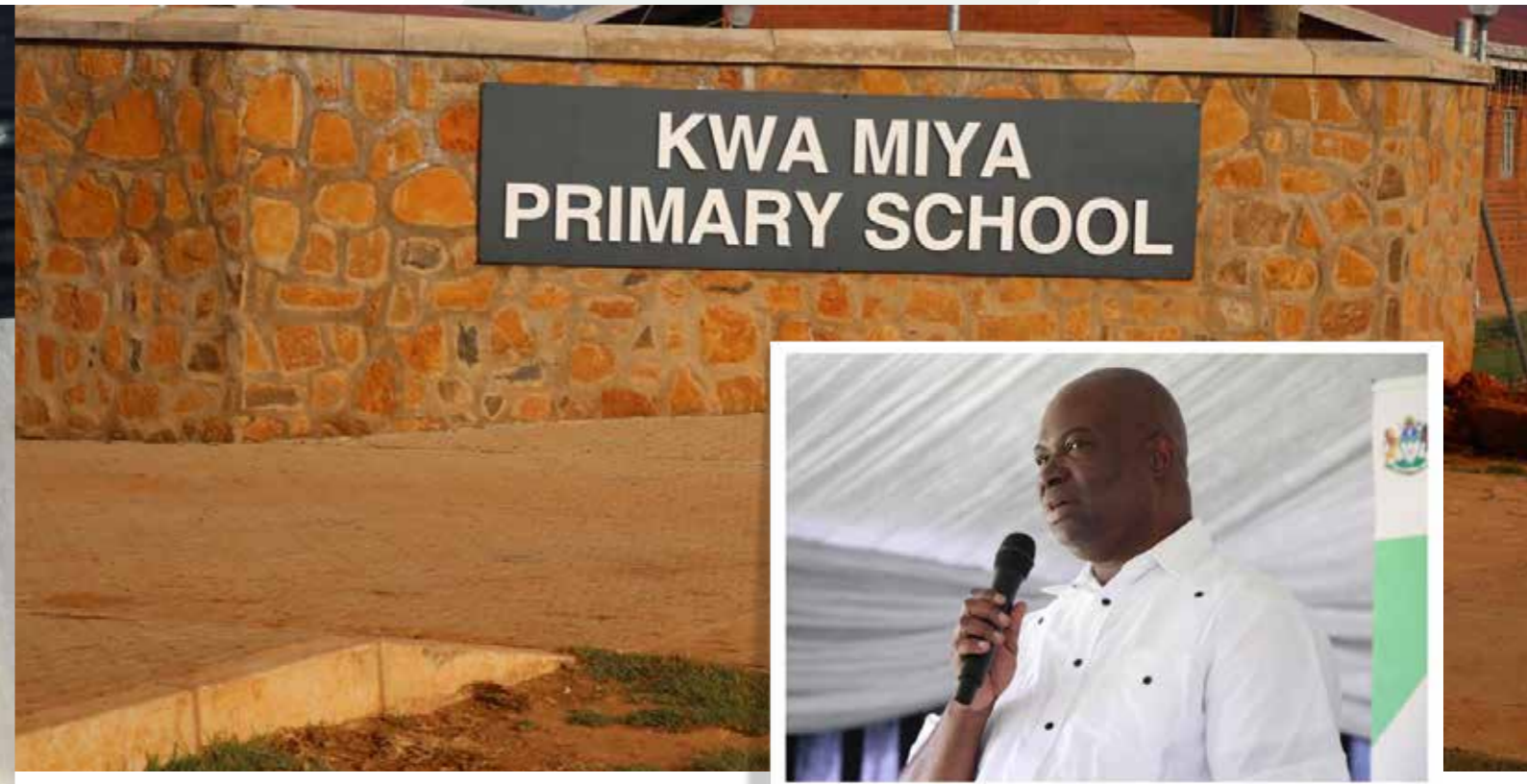
ICT is the mode of education that uses information and communications technology to support, enhance and optimize the delivery of information to learners.



The Head of Department, Mr Nkosinathi Ngcobo attended the Memorial Service of Rev. Eliam Mzikayifani Biyela, a former Executive Director of NATU. The memorial was held at Imbizo Hall in Empangeni, under the King Cetshwayo District on 29 April 2022. Rev Biyela was born in 1955-05-05 and passed away in 2020-12-28. According to many speakers, Dr Biyela was a very honourable man, very complex figure, very intelligent, he was a man of exceptional calibre and standing in the teaching fraternity. He was a man of many talents, endowed with a lot of energy, wisdom, commitment and dedication to the teaching profession.

The HOD said, "Rev Biyela was one of those leaders who shared the philosophy of Che Guevara about what the task of a revolutionary leader is. He said, the first duty of a revolutionary is to be educated." In conclusion he said "To the Biyela family, we want to thank you for sharing Rev. Biyela with us as a Department. He spent a lot of time away from you, serving the nation even as a leader of NATU. We don't want the wounds, but we are happy to have a chance to remember him as a person we lived with and a person who played a big role in the Department of Education, from the

time he was a teacher to the time he was a leader of NATU." The family was given a token of appreciation by the Acting President of NATU, Mr S V Malinga.



The Department officially opened KwaMiya Primary School, situated at Bergville at the area of Emazizini. This programme was facilitated by Adv. Bheki Masuku, who stood as a representative of the Department and the MEC Mr Kwazi Mshengu. The day also saw the rollout of Information Communication Technologies (ICT) to enable digital learning at the school. These ICTs also are aimed at assisting general community members with regards to performing digital functions of all nature.

The ICT equipment which was handed to the school included:

- Uncapped WIFI internet package for three years.
- 40 learner laptops on laptop charging trolley.
- 13 individual teacher laptops.
- 1 Smart classroom with an interactive system.
- 13 Non-reflective whiteboard and data project classroom.
- ICT laboratory with interactive ultra-short throw projector.

The total cost for ICT & Science consumables was estimated to be approximately R2,5 million for ICT Resources and R350 000 for the Science Consumables. Adv. Masuku pleaded with the community to take care of

these valuable resources, as they are vital to the upbringing of the youth and also assist the community at large. This programme is good as it will also assist everyone, such as university applicants and job seekers. The school principal, Mr M. Mahwa commended the Department and the MEC for the construction of the school and their efforts to transform education within the province.



UMGUNGUNDOLOVU DISTRICT SASCE



Learners were very excited to be part of this program which had been put on hold for the past two years due to Covid-19. Umgungundlovu District held its South African Schools Choral Eisteddfod (SASCE) competition on 11-14 May 2022 at Maritzburg College. SASCE is one of the social enrichment programs coordinated by DBE to promote unity in diversity, national reconciliation, positive values, a new South African national identity, social transformation and social cohesion among school-going youth. Choral music provides an opportunity for learners to express and understand what they have learnt in the Arts and Culture learning area. Therefore when schools form and develop choirs, they are not doing this for entertainment or pastime. It is a programme to support the curriculum by creating an opportunity for learners to practice what they have learnt.

Mr Siqhamo Mabinza, District Director, Umgungundlovu, shared this brief message with guests who gathered at the Victoria hall, "We really appreciate the role that is played by our educators and schools in unearthing talent from our learners. While this is meant as part of choral competition, it is also an educational and to some degree an economic

activity in the long run as some learners become soloists and get recruited by the music industry. We wish to encourage other schools to participate in SASCE. We remain indebted to our educators who despite their curriculum mandate they also have to organise these choirs". All choirs that obtained position one in the various categories will go on to represent the district at the Provincial competition to be held soon".



JUST-IN-TIME PROGRAMME ON A ROLL

The Department conducted a Provincial Just-in-time Planning workshop for the Grade 10 – 12 Subject Advisors. The seminar was held on 21 - 24 April 2022 at Elangeni, Maharani and Garden Court – Marine Parade in Durban where the Department of Basic Education and Umalusi officials were also invited to assist with the training. Amongst the officials present were Dr Parafin Mchunu and Dr Nonhlanhla Shozi from Umalusi. From the KZNDOE were the Acting Chief Director for Curriculum, Dr Bheka Makhathini, the Coordinators; for Mathematics, Mrs Nonhlanhla Mthembu; Ms Zama Ngcobo for Physical Science and Mr Shriveen Kirpal for CAT and EGD. The Provincial workshops were coordinated by Dr Makhathini who also addressed the Subject Advisors. In his remarks he said "The majority of our learners struggle to obtain 50% and above, especially on gateway subjects for their exams. It's for this reason that these workshops are conducted so that we are able to bridge the gap of content coverage. We are here to identify the key challenges in order to assist the Province to perform better."



BRETTONWOOD HANDOVER



The HOD, Mr Nkosinathi Ngcobo, held an official handover of school resources such as laptop, printer and financial records together with the National department officials in Brettonwood High School, under Umlazi district on the 24th of May.

This follows the recent flooding which caused major damage in the school's resource mainly the administration block as the schools record system was affected together with the school grounds.



HOD'S SUPPORT PROGRAMME



On the 26th of May 2022 the Head of Department Mr Nkosinathi Ngcobo together with senior officials of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education visited Emthonjeniwozwazi High school and Hlathikhulu High school in Escort under the Uthukela District, as part of the HOD's support programme. The purpose of the visit by the HOD and Senior managers to the two schools that were selected was to offer support to the schools in any way that the school needs support in order to produce the best results.

wires and connections, no water and no proper toilets for the learners. These challenges impacted the learner performances in both schools with Hlathikhulu High School being the most affected. After each visit, the HOD and the senior Managers offered solutions to the challenges faced by the Principals and advised them on how to overcome these challenges, they also pledged to support the schools in every way possible in order for them to improve their learner academic performances in all grades.

Principles from both schools were asked to provide a brief profile about the school, provide information about the attendance of the teacher, learner attendance, learner discipline, the performance of the learners from all grades, the conditions of the school infrastructure and other challenges related to the infrastructure, challenges related to staff or staffing and other challenges the Principle might need support with from the Department of Education. Some of the challenges faced by both the schools that were visited were damage to the school infrastructure including damaged windows and ceilings, Vandalised electricity fittings,





PIETERMARITZBURG'S SPELLING BEE STAR

Siphokazi Dlamini, a thirteen-year-old head girl from Scottsville Primary School, is set to compete in this year's Inter-continental Spelling Bee competition in Dubai. "Overwhelmed, excited, nervous but also glad" are the words she uses to describe the opportunity to represent her country and the city of Pietermaritzburg. Prompted by her mother's suggestion, she tried her hand at the Provincial Spelling Bee competition in Umhlanga, Durban, winning first place. Two days before the National Spelling Bee, she flew to Pretoria, competing with spelling bee champions from other provinces in the country, securing second place.

"I was really proud of myself", she beams, recalling the confidence and determination she gained from the experience. To train herself, Dlamini studied a "really thick booklet" with words given to them months before the competitions, practising mostly by herself. "It's a lot of preparation, but it's worth it," she says. She first discovered her aptitude for spelling in Grade 3, during a small spelling bee competition in her class. Reluctant at first, she gave it a try and "the best came out of it". Viewing spelling bee competitions on YouTube, watching the film Akeelah and the Bee, family support and her mother's encouragement, have been Dlamini's motivating forces. The part she finds most challenging about

competing is actually learning the words, along with their pronunciation and language of origin. When asked what her favourite part of spelling is, her response is "I'm happy". She enjoys being exposed to new words and expanding her vocabulary. Her secret to success in managing her time between spelling, playing hockey, swimming and being the captain of her basketball team, is a mixture of talent and a passion for what she does. She's mostly excited, not nervous, about her trip to Dubai this September, remarking that she has "always dreamed about going overseas".

She enjoys being exposed to new words and expanding her vocabulary



Strategic Management Monitoring and Evaluation had an Operational Plan Dialogue session about Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF). The session was held at Dokkies in Durban on the 17th May 2022. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the MTSF and Operational planning reporting processes and requirements, to confirm targets in the MTSF plan and to discuss the audit requirements of Audit General South Africa (AGSA) pertaining to performance information.

Advocate Bheki Masuku mentioned that "the agenda of the Department is to provide quality education. Doing so, we need to complete the infrastructure development plan to promote a healthy teaching environment, provide Teaching and Learning Support Materials (LTSM), equip the youth with skills that will empower them." "The MTSF is the main driver of all our actions in the Department. Your standardized and non-standardized indicators, problem specific indicators and institutional indicators are all driven by the MTSF", Said Dr Lutchman Chetty.

“The agenda of the Department is to provide quality education. Doing so, we need to complete the infrastructure development plan to promote healthy teaching environment, Teaching and Learning Support Materials, equip the youth with skills that will empower them.”

— Bheki Masuku —



HANDING 2 UNITS OF MOBILE CLASSES

The Department of Basic Education went to do a site visit at Suleman Patel Secondary School at Ekukhanyeni area, under the Pinetown District on the 05 May 2022. The school is one of the schools that was affected by the flooding that happened recently. After the floods, some of the classrooms were left without a roof, the floor was destroyed, 1 jojo tank was washed away during the storm and the fence of the school fell flat on the ground.



SACE WOMEN IN MANAGEMENT EMPOWERMENT

The South African Council for Educators (SACE) launched a Women In Management Empowerment seminar on Saturday, 14 May 2022 at San Lameer Hotel in Port Shepstone under Ugu District. Female principals and deputy principals were invited to attend this seminar. The Seminar touched on issues related to management and how one should conduct themselves in managerial positions.

Speaking on behalf of the Department of Education, Ms Thembelihle Gumede who is responsible for district operations in the province, emphasised the importance of how women should conduct themselves in terms of dress code and integrity. Gumede also shared her experiences from the time when she started her teaching career as well as when she was promoted as Principal. She highlighted problems women face like being cornered into sexual favours in order for them to get promotions and being overlooked for positions.



TEACHING AND LEARNING BACK TO NORMAL AFTER DEVASTATING FLOODS

As a result of hard work from the education family, including educators, departmental officials, business community, philanthropist and other many stakeholders, teaching and learning is back to normal in all the schools in KwaZulu-Natal. The MEC Kwazi Mshengu led the charges who worked hard to ensure that despite the devastation, the human spirit was again going to triumph. On 19 April 2022, Minister Angie Motshekga had a two-day visit to the province to see for herself the devastation that had been caused by the heavy downpours.

She visited schools under Umlazi, Pinetwon, as well as Ilembe district where she offered to assist the province in many ways. The Deputy Minister of Public Service and Ad-

ministration, Dr Chana Pilane-Majeke also visited schools in the Pinetwon District where she handed over 130 school shoes and 250 lunch bags to deserving learners at Ntuzuma Primary School. The Deputy Minister also visited Umlazi Com-Tech where she also donated school shoes to needy learners. The team from Department of Basic Education also visited Early Childhood Development Centres in the Umlazi and Pinetown Districts.

"We thank everyone and all stakeholders who worked hard to ensure that we keep our heads above the waters despite the challenges that we faced as a result of floods," said MEC Mshengu, acknowledging that there is still a lot of ground to cover.



MINISTER & MEC VISIT OF FLOOD DAMAGED SCHOOLS



The core of the event was to hand over school shoes and caps to children in need, who lost their homes, family members and basic livelihood due to the recent flooding events.

HANDING OVER CEREMONY AT COM-TECH



The purpose of the visit was to offer any assistance needed by the school and handover 130 school shoes and 250 lunch bags to deserving learners after the flood that left many homeless and distraught.

DEPUTY MINISTER VISITS NTUZUMA PRIMARY SCHOOL



VISIT TO ECD CENTRES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION



WORLD AIDS VACCINE DAY AT NGANGEZWE HIGH SCHOOL

The Department of Education in collaboration with the Department of Health and University of KwaZulu-Natal HIV Pathogenesis Programme, hosted an awareness and community engagement in relation to health and HIV programmes on 18 May 2022 at Ngangezwe High School under Umgungundlovu.



UMKHAMBATHINI SITE INSPECTION

The MEC for Education in Kwazulu-Natal, Mr Kwazi Mshengu conducted an inspection of a site where the proposed Agricultural school will be constructed at UMKhambathini, under the UMGungundlovu District on the 31st of May 2022.



Site visit at Umkhambathini under UMGungundlovu District



HANDOVER TO AMAKHEMFUNDO AND ENGUDUME PRIMARY SCHOOL

The DBE's DG, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli together with the KZNDOE's HOD, Mr Nkosinathi Ngcobo, presided at the hand-over of school shoes to learners from Amakhemfundo and Engudume Primary Schools.

The donation which was made by DG, CEOs and Senior Managers of implenting agents, took place at the Umzinyathi District Office, on 31 May 2022.



Hand-over of school shoes to learners



ABC MOTSEPE SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS CHORAL EISTEDDFOD, (SACE)

The KZN Department of Education hosted the ABC Motsepe SASCE Provincial Competition in the Secondary Schools categories, that took place at the Bethsaida Ministries International in Phoenix, Friday, 27 May 2022.



ABC Motsepe SASCE Provincial Competition