



## 2023 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS MONITORING



2023 NSC Examinations Provincial Prayer at Ethekewini Community Church



Matric Spring Camp - Class of 2023, Mimosadale Education Centre, Escourt



MEC Frazer Launches The KZN Education Book Club



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"On behalf of the Department, I hereby re-affirm our commitment to working with NATU and all our educational stakeholders for the betterment of the education sector,"

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"Congratulations for choosing the noble profession, you are the light in the dark and a beacon of hope to our learners. To the retirees, we thank you for your unwavering commitment and dedication in all the years you spent in the teaching field nurturing our learners in being the light of their aspirations."

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# MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF COMMUNI- CATIONS

**A**s we draw close to the end of the 2023 Academic Year, on behalf of the Communications Team, I take this opportunity to thank you, MEC Frazer, for your continued and guided support.

To all our readers, the newsletter would not have improved the way it has without your support and comments, which is evident in the manner in which you raise issues with us regarding the aesthetic look and feel and the high-level content that immensely contributed to the improvement of our newsletter.

We take no idea for granted, ranging from pictures, colours, font, layout, the logic of the featured stories, and any other issue that relates to the look and feel of the newsletter.

As we step into the new year, we intend to take this communicating platform to greater heights, emulating some of the best practices from other sectors and the corporate world.

One of the intentions, that we have, is to make the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education Newsletter inclusive of the work that is done by the entire Department not only Head Office, but inclusive of all Districts, Circuits and Schools.

As our MEC of Education, has echoed time and again that even work done at the school level should be published.

With the above being said, my capable team awaits to hear from you in this endeavour.

On behalf of the Department, we wish you all the best during this Festive Season.

Yours truly

**Mr Muzi Mahlambi,**  
Head of Communications and Publications,  
KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education.



## 2023 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS MONITORING



**T**he Deputy Minister of Basic Education, Dr Regina Mhaule together with the KwaZulu-Natal Premier, Ms Nomusa Dube-Ncube, and the KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Education, Ms Mbali Frazer monitored the start of the 2023 NSC Examinations on the 30 October 2023, at Umlazi Comprehensive Technical School, under Umlazi District.

The 2023 NSC Examinations started with English P1 with 193 779 candidates who sat for their NSC final examinations. The KZN Department of Education is the biggest examination system in the country and the

National Department of Basic Education always extends its support to the province in order to ensure the smooth running of its operations.

MEC Frazer encouraged candidates and gave them advice on how they should tackle the examinations. "You've worked very hard to be here today, these exams should not scare you because you are well prepared. Just relax, take your time, read and understand the questions before you answer," said MEC Frazer.

Premier Dube-Ncube said the KZN Department of Education did everything to ensure that there was

an educator in every classroom during the 2023 academic year. "You are here at your finish line, when you want something you put everything you have in it. As Government we wish you all the best."

The Deputy Minister Mhaule expressed her satisfaction with all the efforts made by the KZN Department of Education to prioritise the schools that did not perform well during the 2022 NSC Exams. "We came here to support you, to encourage you and to wish you well. You have been on this journey for thirteen years, be calm and read with understanding all will be well" said the Deputy Minister Mhaule.

**- Amanda Memela**



## MATRIC SPRING CAMP - CLASS OF 2023 KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE – MIMOSADALE EDUCATION CENTRE, ESCOURT



The DDG for Curriculum Management and Delivery, Mr Mbongiseni Mazibuko, visited and monitored a Matric Spring Camp organized by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education at Mimosadale Education Centre, Uthukela District. He was accompanied by the District Director, Ms Mapaseka Mokoena, and other officials of the Department on the 06th of October 2023.

DDG Mazibuko encouraged the learners to take their studies seriously, using the camps opportunity

they have been given to study and pass their Grade 12. He asked them to refrain from making wrong decisions that they may destroy their lives.

Learners were warned of the dangers of irregular means of trying to pass an examination.

**- Mncedisi Ntombela**





## 2023 NSC EXAMINATIONS PROVINCIAL PRAYER AT ETHEKWINI COMMUNITY CHURCH



The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Education, Ms Mbali Frazer attended the Matric Prayer hosted by EThekwini Community Church on the 29 October 2023.

The purpose of this prayer was to seek divine guidance, strength, and spiritual support as the class of 2023 prepared to embark on their final examinations. The matric learners came in numbers to also pray for themselves.

MEC Frazer urged communities to not shut down schools whenever they experience

service delivery challenges as that would disrupt the examinations. She advised parents and the community to go to the relevant departments whenever they are not satisfied with Government services. She asked for the families to give learners support and enough time to study and prepare for the next paper.

“Have faith, our dear learners, you are not alone, we are here to support you, we will walk this journey with you till the very last day. You have the power to overcome any challenge, including these

exams, with hard work, prayer, support, and determination,” said MEC Frazer.

Even though the nerves were visible, learners were confident - saying they have been working very hard throughout the year, forming study groups and attending extra classes as well as the boot camps during school holidays.

**- Amanda Memela**



## UMLAZI DISTRICT 2023 EXAMINATIONS PRAYER



**T**he KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education's Umlazi District hosted a prayer meeting on the 27 October 2023 at Montclair Senior Primary School to invoke the divine and spiritually guide Grade 12 learners and those tasked with administering the examination.

The prayer meeting was held under the theme 'We don't believe that God brought us this far to leave us.' Umlazi District is the biggest district in KZN with the highest number of enrolments.

Present at the prayer meeting was the Umlazi District Director, Mrs Busi Mahlambi, MANCO members, social partners (SADTU & CTU-ATU), pastors from different ministries, matric learners from various schools in Umlazi District, teachers and principals of schools. Mrs Busi Mahlambi delivered her welcome address saying, "Today we are gathered here to pray for your protection and mercy, for you to grasp everything when you study. Go out there and unleash your greatest potential, this is the chance

for you shine and move to higher education institutions next year."

The social partners gave words of support and encouragement to the learners and assured them that if they put all the hard work and determination to these examinations, they will reap the fruits next year January during the release of the results.

**- Amanda Memela**



# UMLAZI DISTRICT 2023 EXAMINATIONS PRAYER GALLERY





## 2023 NSC EXAM MONITORING



**T**he NSC Exam monitoring continues throughout the province as the Department's top management put their office duties to a halt, in the quest to ensure that the exam writing process becomes successful and is administered in the way it was intended.

The MEC for Education, Ms Mbali Frazer, and the HOD, Mr Nkosinathi Ngcobo, have ensured that all districts have been monitored. Other monitoring processes includ-

ed the likes of Adv. Bheki Masuku (DDG for corporate Management) and Mr Mbongiseni Mazibuko (DDG for curriculum management)

These visitation/ monitoring sessions took place in the month of October and November in all the various districts of our beloved province. The department of education in KwaZulu Natal holds firm ground that the examination process went as anticipated and is optimistic that the results will reflect

the success that was displayed in the preparation of the exam period. The department wishes all candidates a good exam period and all the best in their future endeavours.

**- Lungelo Msomi**

# 2023 NSC EXAM MONITORING GALLERY





## MEC FRAZER VISITS INMATES ENGAGED IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES AT DURBAN CORRECTIONAL SERVICE CENTRE

**K**waZulu-Natal MEC for Education, Ms Mbali Frazer commemorated the World AIDS day with inmates who are currently enrolled in Usethubeni School in Durban Correctional Services facility today, 1 December 2023.

Usethubeni obtained a 100% pass rate, with bachelor passes in 2022. Of the 20 inmates who passed matric in 2022, 10 of them are now to enrolled in institutions of higher learning as they continue to further their studies.

The Regional Commissioner for KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Mnikelwa Nxele expressed his gratitude for the continuous support and the good relations between the Department of Correctional Services in the province and KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education.

The partnership between these departments has made it possible for learners enrolled in schools and other educational programmes within correctional services facilities to succeed.

Learners at Usethubeni had the opportunity to engage with MEC Frazer

and raised their concerns about some of the challenges they are experiencing. They made a request to MEC Frazer to intervene and assist because their school has been experiencing ashortage of resources.

MEC Frazer committed to assist learners by donating stationery in January 2023.

She has also established a team comprising of senior officials from both the Department of Correctional Services and KZNDOE that will attend to all issues that are negatively affecting the schools and other educational programmes within the correctional services facilities.

Inmates were motivated to check their HIV status so that they can be assisted by the health care facility within the Correctional Services Centre should they need help.

“Today is the World AIDS day and we are here to tell you that no one must die because of HIV/AIDS. If your HIV status is negative, continue with prevention measures and if your HIV/AIDS status is positive, the health care facilities will give you all the necessary sup-

port you need,” said MEC Frazer.

She also encouraged inmates to protect each other against all forms of abuse.

Furthermore, she expressed gratitude to the educators and correctional services officials for the role they play to rehabilitate offenders.

“Educators face various challenges in schools outside of correctional services facilities so I know it’s even more challenging to be an educator in a school with these facilities because we understand that the learners you teach are here for a reason and you have to comprehend to that,” added MEC Frazer.

She later donated toys to the children of the inmates who are currently living with their mothers inside the Durban Correctional Services Centre.

Venue: Durban Correctional Services Centre, in Westville

Date: 01 December 2023.

- Nokuthula Ntuli

# MEC FRAZER VISITS INMATES ENGAGED IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES AT DURBAN CORRECTIONAL SERVICE CENTRE GALLERY





## MEC FRAZER HAILS DEDICATED EDUCATORS AND PAYS TRIBUTE TO NATU'S ALLEN THOMPSON



**T**he KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Education, Ms Mbali Frazer, and Minister of Employment and Labour, Mr Thulas Nxesi, have hailed educators as true patriots who tirelessly guide future leaders towards knowledge, wisdom and enlightenment. They were speaking during the commemoration of World Teachers' Day which was hosted by the National Teachers Union (NATU) at the Alan Thompson Hall, in Newcastle, on 27 October 2023.

Minister of Basic Education, Mrs Angie Motshekga also sent a recorded video of her message of support where she expressed her gratitude to educators whom she described as the backbone of the education system.

Addressing the packed hall, MEC

Frazer thanked the educators for their hard work and dedication to the Government's mission to delivering quality education to every corner of the Republic of South Africa. "On behalf of the Department, I hereby reaffirm our commitment to working with NATU and all our educational stakeholders for the betterment of the education sector," said MEC Frazer.

NATU also used the event to rename its Teacher Development Institute after the Union's late President, Mr S.A. Thompson to Alan Thompson Conference Hall. Paying tribute to Mr Thompson, MEC Frazer said his legacy lives on in the hearts of every educator he touched and in the positive changes he brought to the education system. MEC also used the occasion to wish

all learners and educators a safe and fruitful examination season.

She reminded the NATU leaders and all educators of the task that the Government and public has entrusted them with, which is the responsibility of protecting the integrity of the examinations. NATU members and guests also read the Teacher's Pledge where they promised to promote and uphold the integrity of the teaching profession by always striving to always do their best.

**- Nokuthula Ntuli**

# MEC FRAZER HAILS DEDICATED EDUCATORS AND PAYS TRIBUTE TO NATU'S ALLEN THOMPSON GALLERY





## MEC FRAZER LAUNCHES THE KZN EDUCATION BOOK CLUB



**T**he KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Education, Ms Mbali Frazer launched the KZN Education MEC's Provincial Book Club at Adams College on the 10th October 2023. The Education MEC's Book Club was launched to encourage the culture of reading in society. Reading promotes language acquisition, communication skills, social skills, and literacy skills, it also allows learners to use their imagination.

Regional book clubs will be launched in all the 12 districts. In addition to promoting the culture of read-

ing, these book clubs will provide a platform for discussing critical issues affecting literature in society.

The MEC's vision is to see these book clubs as inclusive spaces that attract and welcome readers of different ages and backgrounds. "It is my heartfelt request that while adults read their club-selected books at home, they invite the children in their households to join them in reading age-appropriate materials", said MEC Frazer. She encouraged all stakeholders and community members to join the book

clubs in their respective districts. The first selection for MEC's Book Club is authored by the talented and expressive Thabile Shange, a qualified journalist from Durban. The book is titled in the Midst of it All. Learners from Itshemhlophe Primary School demonstrated their reading skills in both English and IsiZulu, including the skills they attained through the culture of reading.

The President, Cyril Ramaphosa once said "Early reading is the basic foundation that determines a child's educational progress, through school, through higher education, and into the workplace."

**- Amanda Memela**



# MEC FRAZER LAUNCHES THE KZN EDUCATION BOOK CLUB GALLERY





## THE NATIONAL SCIENCE OLYMPIADS COMPETITION WINNERS



**M**EC Frazer got an opportunity to meet the learners that won the National Science Olympiads at Anton Lembede Mathematics, Science and Technology Academy on the 26 October 2023. The MEC thanked them for the sterling hard work and determination they put, which has led them to winning the competition.

The Anton Lembede MST Academy Grade 10 learners participated in the annual National Science Olympiads competition with other learners from all nine provinces. The schools that participate included Government, independent, and private schools.

The main aim of the competition is to identify talent, encourage excel-



lence in science education and to stimulate interest in the sciences career. It seeks to inspire young people to consider careers in science and technology. The competition comprises an annual examination in Physical and Life Sciences.

The top national performers got an opportunity to go to Thailand, Bangkok for 10 days to learn more about Science. The six learners are: Zimu

Samkelo, Dlamini sbusiso, Mzimkhulu sphisihle, Khuzwayo Lihlithemba, Gugu Mhlongo, Zanokuhle Mbambo.

**- Amanda Memela**



# UMGUNGUNDLOVU TEACHER WELL-BEING SEMINAR



**T**he Education Labour Relations Council hosted the Teacher well-being Seminar for educators in the KwaZulu Natal Department of Education, under the uMgungundlovu District. The event was held at Maritzburg Boys College, Pietermaritzburg, on the 19th of October 2023.

The District Director, Mr Siqhamo Mabinza said educators are the fabric of the department. “they are very important because a learner would not be taught if they were not in the classroom so we would like to thank all educators for ensuring that quality education is delivered to all 494 public schools and 52 independent schools under uMgungundlovu District,” he said. Mr Mabinza also encouraged all educators to keep up the good work

despite the challenges they experience in the work environment.

The purpose of the seminar was to capacitate educators with understanding how to deal with their physical, mental, financial and work environment issues, where to seek help and how to respond to issues they face in their lives. Several presenters presented and shared presentations on all these issues.

**- Amahle Meyiwa**



# UMGUNGUNDLOVU TEACHER WELL-BEING SEMINAR GALLERY





## KZN TEACHERS SNATCH GLOBAL TEACHER AWARDS 2023



The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Education, Ms Mbali Frazer congratulates Mr BI Biyele, the Principal, of Grantham Park Primary School for being honoured with a Certificate of Recognition at the Global Teacher Award 2023. He was awarded this prestigious accolade at the Global Education Fest 2023, which took place in New Delhi, India on 4th November 2023.

Furthermore a Teacher, Miss Nokubonga Gloria Nkosi from Pongola in the Zululand District, who specialises in teaching Computer Application Technology and Mathematics at Esiphondweni Secondary School at Jozini-uMkhanyakude District, was selected as the recipient of the prestigious Global Teacher Award 2023 for her out-



standing contributions to education.

Miss Nokubonga Gloria Nkosi's work had not gone unnoticed, and Global Teacher Award 2023 (AKS) was thrilled to honour her dedication and commitment in the field of education. In recognition of her remarkable achievements, Global Teacher Award 2023 (AKS) invited Miss Nokubonga Gloria Nkosi to a Grand 2-day Awards Ceremony where the Global Education Fest 2023 present-

ed her with the Global Teacher Award.

This prestigious event also took place during the 4th and 5th of November 2023 in India, New Delhi, and it promises to be an inspiring gathering of educators from around the world who shared a passion for shaping the future of education.

- Lungelo Msomi



## TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION AND RETIREES FAREWELL.



The Windy Heights Primary School in Umlazi District hosted a wonderful event to celebrate four categories, mainly Teacher's Day Celebration, Retirees farewell, PYEI assistants farewell and Teacher's Awards under the theme "10 years of collective leadership." The event was held at Amanzimtoti Civic Centre on the 05 September 2023.

Teacher's Day is celebrated annually on the 5th of October. The

purpose of this event is to celebrate the perseverance, dedication and passion of teachers in shaping and transforming the future of the learners through Education.

The Awards Ceremony was held under the following categories: Early riser, Energizer Bunny, Intervention Guru, School Comedian, Google Classroom Expert, Fund-raiser Hero, Most Distinguished Voice and Uninterrupted Attendance. The retirees were also ac-

knowledged for serving the department until the day of their retirement. The Umlazi District Director, Mrs Busi Mahlambi in her keynote address said, "Congratulations for choosing the noble profession, you are the light in the dark and a beacon of hope to our learners. To the retirees, we thank you for your unwavering commitment and dedication in all the years you spent in the teaching field nurturing our learners in being the light of their aspirations."

- Amanda Memela

# TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION AND RETIREES FAREWELL. GALLERY





## MEC ATTENDS MASS MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE KWA - HATTING ACCIDENT VICTIMS



**M**EC Mbali Frazer attended the Mass Memorial Service at Engodini, Hatting Area Ward 6 under Amajuba District on the 5th of October, following the accident that claimed life of 7 learners from Groetveil Combined Secondary School.

Amongst the attendees present were the leadership of Emadlangeni Local Municipality, Mayor Mzwakhe Buthelezi, MEC for Social Development in KwaZulu-Natal, Mrs Nonhlahla Khoza, DDG for Corporate Services,

Advocate Bheki Masuku and the families of the deceased learners.

Ms Mbali Frazer, when addressing the audience, said, "Indeed today it is a sad day for all of us. I wish to send condolences to the families, learners and educators of Groenveil Combine Secondary School." The MEC further read the script from the book of Psalms 41 verse 18 which says "The Lord is near those who have a broken heart, and serves such as a contrite spirit.

MEC for Social Development in KwaZulu-Natal, Mrs Nonhlahla Khoza delivering her keynote address she mentioned that, "This accident does not only touch the community of Emadlangeni, but the whole nation" She said the Department of Social Development will provide all the socio support that is needed by the families,"

**- Mbali Zulu**





## MEC VISITS TENLEY MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL FOLLOWING CRIME INCIDENTS



The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Education, Ms Mbali Frazer, displayed her deep concerns of schools becoming soft targets for criminals. She spoke these words during her assessment of the damage caused by thieves at the Tinley Manor Primary School, under iLembe District, on the 4th of November 2023.

The school has been broken into twice in a span of one week with the latest being the Friday evening of the 3rd of November. On the Wednesday of the

1st of November, the thieves entered through the roof and stole valuable equipment as well as trophies. Later on Friday the stolen items included the ink for printers, PA system as well money from the school tuck-shop.

Three people have been arrested in connection with both incidents. The police were also able to recover some of the stolen items from one of the homes neighbouring the school. MEC Frazer committed that the KZN Department of Education will provide the school

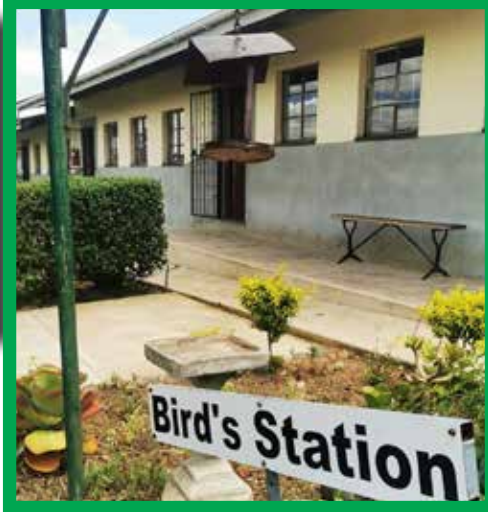
with new fencing. She added that the school will be soon getting its allocated norms and standards funds which will assist the management strengthen the necessary security features.

“It’s very concerning that our schools are now becoming soft targets for criminals. We are calling on communities to protect schools in their area. They must work with law enforcement agencies to stop the thugs who think they can turn our schools into their criminal playground,” said MEC Frazer.

- Lungelo Msomi



# NHLONHLWENI PRIMARY SCHOOL



**N**hlonhlweni Primary School in uThukela district has once again retained its School Environmental Education Program (SEEP) Resource School Status. The school has had the status for the past 5 years. This year the school registered for five program areas with the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs in KwaZulu Natal. Currently the school is working towards achieving the Water Explorers status, for this status the school will be assessed on the following environmental areas, health environment, green projects, science, technology in education for sustainable development, culture, outdoor and education for sustainable development and language in education for sustainable development. By actively participating in the program the school has drawn the attention of the business sector for fi-

nancial support from Spar, Ladysmith Build It and Ladysmith Black Mambazo.

The school has demonstrated growth and progress in issues of environmental awareness in all aspects of the curriculum and a robust environmental committee reflects the fact that all parties are equally committed towards sustainable change. The school showed to have strength in the following, cleanliness of the school environment, keep up the greening of the school environment, overall understanding and implementation of the program, active learner, and teacher participation, mentoring and recruiting other schools,

partnering with other stakeholders, teamwork and community involvement, implementation of new projects and lastly creativity and innovation.

The school works jointly with sister departments, SAPS, Child Welfare, SASSA, Health, EDTEA, Correctional Services and SANDF 5SAI, Zuzimpilo NPO also supports the school. Partnering with these departments and NPO's has ensured that learners that do not have school uniforms get assistance, the school also has a soup kitchen, Build It sponsored the school with special infrastructure for staff meetings. The school enjoys unwavering support from EDTEA

- Qinisile Mkhize

# NHLONHLWENI PRIMARY SCHOOL GALLERY



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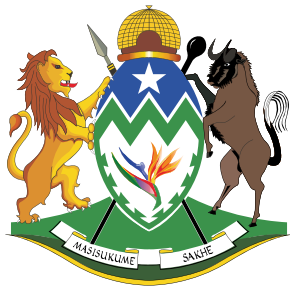
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