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# CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

For more information about similar programmes that are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

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#### FREE STATE

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#### **GAUTENG**

Peter Gumede 011 331 0164 or 083 570 8080 peterg@gcis.gov.za

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# PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

# **Xhariep District celebrates top achievers**

By Lindelwa Fuku: GCIS, Free State

As South Africa celebrated the Grade 12 results of the class of 2022, the Xhariep District celebrated two of their learners who made it to the provincial top 100 performers.

Naledi Majenge from Zastron and Yoliswa Vuso from Springfontein were congratulated by Executive Mayor Councillor Irene Mehlomakulu, for the remarkable work they did.

Majenge said being in the provincial top 100 achievers "is a dream come true", citing that she studied hard preparing for such an achievement.

Vuso, who was equally excited, said, "I could not believe that my hard work paid off, I was so happy to know that I am part of the top 100. I am super happy."

The province was again announced as the top-performing province for the matric results, and four of its district municipalities made it to the top 10 performing districts in the country.

The teachers, parents and learners were acknowledged for working hard to achieve quality results that were produced by the class of 2022.





Yoliswa Vuso who made it in the province's top 100 achievers.









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## **NORTHERN CAPE**

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## WESTERN CAPE

Geraldine Thopps 021 418 0533/2307 or 081 281 2200 Geraldine@gcis.gov.za

# COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 12-year-olds and above:

#### Online at:

https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/

Send the word **REGISTER** to 0600 123 456 on WhatsApp.

Via SMS by dialling \*134\*832#.
Call the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 999.

# PRIORITY 1: BUILDING A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

# **Implementation of the Energy Action Plan**

By The South African Government

The National Energy Crisis Committee (NECOM) has released a six-month progress update on the implementation of the Energy Action Plan.

This update follows a period of load shedding which was escalated to stage 6 due to a high number of breakdowns across Eskom's generation fleet.

The Energy Action Plan was developed through extensive consultation and endorsed by energy experts as providing the best and fastest path toward energy security.

The NECOM has since been established to coordinate the government's response and ensure swift implementation of the plan.

The progress update outlines important steps that have been taken to follow through on the commitments announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa in July 2022.

## These include:

- a) Schedule 2 of the Electricity Regulation Act has been amended to remove the licensing requirement for generation projects, which will significantly accelerate private investment.
- b) Since the licensing threshold was first raised to 100 MW, the pipeline of private sector projects has grown to more than 100 projects with over 9000 MW of capacity. The first of these large-scale projects are expected to connect to the grid by the end of this year.
- c) The NECOM has instructed departments to cut red tape and streamline regulatory processes for energy projects, including reducing the timeframe for environmental authorisations to 57 days from over 100 days previously; reducing the registration process from four months to three weeks; and ensuring that grid connection approvals are provided within six months.
- d) Project agreements for 19 projects from Bid Window 5 and six projects from Bid Window 6 of the renewable energy programme, representing 2800 MW of new capacity. These projects will soon proceed to construction.
- e) A new Ministerial determination has been published for 14 771 MW of new generation capacity from wind, solar and battery storage to accelerate further bid windows.
- f) An additional 300 MW has been imported through the Southern African Power Pool, and negotiations are underway to secure a potential 1 000 MW from neighbouring countries starting this year.

- g) Eskom has developed and launched a programme to purchase power from companies with available generation capacity through a standard offer. The first contracts are expected to be signed in the coming weeks.
- h) A team of independent experts has been established to work closely with Eskom to diagnose the problems at poorly performing power stations and take action to improve plant performance.

Six power stations have been identified for particular focus over the coming months through a comprehensive Generation Recovery Plan, with oversight from the new Eskom board.

Further updates will be provided on a regular basis regarding progress in implementing the Energy Action Plan.

The full update can be accessed at http://bit.ly/3D4243A.







**Onarerona Olifant said:** 

"I am from Jerry Mahura Secondary School. I obtained five distinctions and a Bachelor's admission. I am very happy that I have achieved the target that I had set for myself at the beginning of the academic year."



Education MEC Viola Motsumi handing over the trophy to the top achiever in the province, Wadee Safiyyah from Zinniaville Secondary in Bojanala District.

# PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

## **Bursaries for top achievers**

By Bakang Ditibane: GCIS, North West

On 20 January 2023, the North West MEC for Education Viola Ntsetsao Motsumi together with Premier Bushy Maape led the provincial release of the 2022 matric results at Seasons Wedding and Conference Centre, Mafikeng, in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality.

The province congratulated and awarded top achievers on the excellent and great improvement in the overall matric results in the province.

The Executive Mayor of Mahikeng Local Municipality Councillor Tshepiso Mphehlo made the opening and welcome remarks and congratulated the class of 2022 in the province as they obtained 79.8% an improvement of 1.6% from 78.2% in 2021.

The outgoing Superintendent-General of the Department of Education Stephinah Semaswe alluded to challenges the class of 2022 had endured such as COVID-19 such as; curriculum trimming, community protests and loadshedding, among others.

Addressing the audience, MEC Motsumi announced that out of 444 schools that presented Grade 12 in 2022, 338 performed at 70% and above. In total, the number of candidates who achieved Bachelor passes is 14 733 compared to 13 872 of the class of 2021.

The MEC said, "The number of passes with Diploma is 12 370 (28.2%), higher than 10 794 attained in 2021, and passes with higher certificates is 7 853 (17.9%) which is an improvement from last year of 7 470."

Premier Bushy Maape congratulating the matric class of 2022 for their outstanding results.

The Department also acknowledged and appreciated the excellent work of Wadee Safiyyah, a pupil from Zinniaville Secondary in Bojanala District who is the top achiever in the province. She obtained six distinctions and scored 1 706 marks in all subjects excluding Life Orientation.

Premier Maape announced the awarding of five bursaries to top achievers, per district, to study for the career of their choice. The stakeholders also awarded top achievers with gifts and money.

The Premier also sent his congratulatory message to the class of 2022 and alluded to seeing an improvement in the class of 2023 to reach position one in the following year.

The event was supported the Government Communication and Information System, Treasury MEC Motlalepule Rosho, Community Safety and Transport Management MEC Sello Lehari and Health MEC Madoda Sambatha.

Among other dignitaries present were North West Legislature Speaker Sussana Dantjie, members of the Traditional House of Leaders, education department stakeholders, unions and senior managers.



The 2022 North West top achievers.





# PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

## Academic year kicks off on high note

By Mpho More: GCIS, Northern Cape

Learners in the Northern Cape returned to school in good numbers, on 18 January 2023, for the start of theacademic year.

Various provincial MECs were deployed to various schools across the province to monitor compliance.

The MEC for Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Rural Development Land Reform, Mase Manopole, visited Sol Plaatje Primary School in the Frances Baard District Municipality where she met with the management to discuss the school's plans for the year, and provide guidance on how the government can assist with achieving its goals.

The meeting focused primarily on the school's academic performance and ways of improving it.

MEC Manopole encouraged the school management to recognise top achievers by introducing pricegiving programmes as a method of motivating other learners.

She also said her department will help resuscitate the school's food garden in order for the feeding scheme to provide learners with sufficient meals for the day.

School principal Patrick Charles Mangate, provided a detailed presentation on their 2022 results, which included the challenges experienced in the previous year and plans to address them. The presentation also highlighted the strategies in place to improve the academic results and improve the existing extra mural activities of the school.

The senior management team and the Student Governing Body were all in support of the principal's plans to improve the quality of learning and teaching, and committed to encouraging parents to do their part in assisting learners to produce good results.

MEC Manopole was afforded the opportunity to meet with the Grade 1 and sevens where she witnessed their excitement and eagerness to commence schooling.









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## MEC Mase Manopople said:

"We are here as government to give guidance and support to our schools, Over and above, I want to resuscitate the school food garden, which will help their feeding scheme to provide nutritious food to the learners."



# **Principal Patrick Mangate said:**

"My plans for this year are to ensure that we work closely with the parents to improve the academic results, and to improve the extra curricula activities so that we can grow athletes within our society."



## **SGB Chairperson Nicholas Xholo Ndayi said:**

"Our intention is to encourage the parents to support their children with their school work."