

REMARKS BY HIS WORSHIP THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF  
WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY CLLR. MORRIS  
MATABOGE DURING THE 2018 DISTRICT MATRIC  
AWARDS CEREMONY

10 JANUARY 2019

FOREVER RESORT, BELA-BELA

10H00

*Programme Director, Mr. Marakalala*

- ❖ *The Mayor of Bela Bela Local Municipality, Cllr. Ngobeni,*
- ❖ *Mayors of local municipalities present,*
- ❖ *Speakers led by the District Speaker Cllr Sara Lamola.*
- ❖ *Chief Whips led by the District Chief Whip Cllr. Tsebe,*
- ❖ *Members of the Mayoral Committee,*
- ❖ *Traditional Leaders present under the leadership of the  
Chairperson of the Local House, Kgoshi Kekana and his  
Deputy Inkosi Mahlangu,*
- ❖ *Councillors,*
- ❖ *The District Directors, Pastor Madela and Mr. Mangala,*
- ❖ *The District Acting Municipal Manager, Mr Gladwin  
Tloubatla,*
- ❖ *Our Motivational Speaker, Professor Khumalo*
- ❖ *Sponsors,*
- ❖ *SGB Representatives,*
- ❖ *Parents, Principals, teachers and learners,*
- ❖ *Representatives of Labour Formations,*
- ❖ *Representatives of Student Formations,*
- ❖ *Officials from both municipalities and sector departments,*
- ❖ *Media Houses present,*
- ❖ *Distinguished guests,*

*Ladies and gentlemen.*

**A VERY GOOD MORNING,**

**It is a great honour and privilege for me to be part of this grand occasion. On behalf on the council of the Waterberg District Municipality, the District Department of Education and the citizens of the district, I convey warm greetings and compliments of 2019.**

**Today, we are gathered here to celebrate the achievements and performance of our learners in the 2018 National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations. We are gathered here on the year in which South Africa will be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of political freedom and democracy.**

**Programme Director, we have always maintained to continue with this rituals annually regardless of the outcome of the results to ensure that we motivate our learners to take their studies and education seriously in building a prosperous district and nation.**

**The National Development Plan (NDP recognises education as the cornerstone upon which a nation that provides opportunities for social mobility, equity, social justice and democracy will depend.**

**The NDP further recognises districts as a crucial interface of the Basic Education Sector in identifying best practice, sharing information, and providing support to schools. The continued growth in the performance of districts is closely monitored and evaluated by both the Provincial and National Basic Education departments.**

**As a result, the Provincial Department of Education in the Limpopo Province has divided the five districts into ten, meaning each district has been divided into two districts of the Department of Education.**

When the MEC for the Department of Education Honourable Kgetjepe was delivering the Budget Vote last year, it was clearly indicated that the 2018 NSC Provincial results in Limpopo are going to be announced according to the ten education districts model which was pronounced in 2016/17 budget vote.

The 2018 matric examination results have been categorised as such. This translates that our district has been divided into *Waterberg 2* and *Mogalakwena Districts*.

But the awards we are to be present today will be awarded as a consolidation of the two whilst considering hosting two separate ceremonies starting from next year.

Programme Director, not pre-empting the presentation of the awards, I want us to give ourselves a round of applause! This we do regardless of the position of the Limpopo Province in the 2018 National Matric results.

As long as we can strengthen the tripartite alliance between teachers, parents and organs of civil society, we shall be able to achieve our mission to be the number one in the Province when it comes to matric results.

Ladies and gentlemen, we should always remember at all times that if we have to further improve the outputs of the schooling system, we will have to continue to improve the fundamental quality of learning and teaching, well before Grade 12. It is unfortunate that foundation phase teachers are not here, but their contribution to the success of the Grade 12 learners cannot be matched.

Therefore, the success of any examination, is a reflection of the hard work put in by teachers, learners, parents, and communities of trust, not only during the year of the examination, but throughout the twelve years of schooling. Research shows that the early years of learning to read, write, and compute, translate into positive results and outcomes later in the schooling years.

Programme Director, our performance analysis from 2016 has been improving as follows:

- In 2016 we obtained 64.2% - an improvement of 5.5% and placed us in position 3 at provincial level.
- In 2017 we obtained 69.5% and placed at position two (2) at the provincial level

Ladies and gentlemen, the 2018 Grade 12 results for the Waterberg District as per the new demarcation are as follows:

- Waterberg 2 obtained 73.2% and placed at position three (3) at the provincial
- Mogalakwena obtained 71.6% and placed at position four (4) at the provincial level.

These results demonstrate the improved quality in the district. We are very happy with the 2018 results because the two districts improved tremendously as compared to previous years.

We have the District Ambassadors, these are schools and circuits that represented Waterberg at the Provincial Awards.

In the district we have a Circuit with over 500 learners and the schools with 50 or more candidates which obtained 100% pass.

- This Circuit had 500 or more Learners who wrote the 2018 examinations and the name is Potgietersrus Circuit

➤ The schools are:

Name of the School	Number wrote	Number passed
Frikkie Meyer	162	162
Waterberg High	109	109

Programme Director, let me take this opportunity to applaud all schools which put Waterberg on the map by obtaining a 100% pass during the 2018 matric results (*names of those will be announced at a later stage*)

Another equally important category that deserve a special applause is the most improved school in the district which will also be divulged later.

We once more congratulate their principals, teachers, SGB`s and learners themselves for the total commitment they displayed. Although we can boldly pride ourselves of the notable gains, in transforming education, much still need to be done to improve its quality across the entire system.

To our learners we say a bright future beckons for all of you. The onus is now on you, through your continued hard work and dedication, to reach for the skies.

On this day a number of our best performers will receive awards as an acknowledgement of their hard work. We trust that these awards will inspire all of you and those that come after you to do even better in your studies.

For those who did not do well, don`t give up. Work hard and achieve the goals you have set for yourself.

Special thanks must be directed to the two District Directors (Pastor Julia Madela and Mr. Ndo Mangala) for working tirelessly by transforming the education system in the two districts.

We thank all sponsors and the motivational speakers for making this ceremony a success – please continue supporting and motivating our learners, teachers and all those involved in our education sector.

Finally, Programme Director, congratulations to all recipients of the awards. Please use these awards to better the future of yourselves, the district, the province and the entire country.

We are not here for political speeches but for jubilations and rejoice as we bid farewell to our children.

Let me conclude by the wise words of the former and late President of the African National Congress, O.R. Tambo when he said: *“Children of any nation are its future. A country, a movement, a person that does not value its youth and children does not deserve its future”*

***KE A LEBOGA, I THANK YOU ALL !!!***