

REMARKS BY HIS WORSHIP THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

CLLR. MORRIS MATABOGE

2019 DISTRICT MATRIC AWARDS CEREMONY

17 JANUARY 2020

FOREVER RESORT, BELA-BELA

Programme Director, Mr. Masia

- ❖ *Pastor Mosima,*
- ❖ *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 Zacharia Namate,*
- ❖ *SGB Representatives,*
- ❖ *Our Motivational Speaker Dr. abbey Ngoepe,*
- ❖ *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 truly a privilege for me to be part of the 2019 Grade 12 Awards Ceremony. On behalf of the Council and the citizens of Waterberg District, let me pass my fraternal greetings and compliments of the New Year.

As I stand before you, I recall the words of one of humanity's finest, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr when he said:(I quote) "**Occasionally in life there are moments which cannot be completely explained by words. Their meaning can only be articulated by the inaudible language of the heart.**"(Unquote)

Today is such a moment for us. As I look around, I see beaming parents, proud relatives and friends, and I cannot help but be moved by the moment. Many of you here today would have been ever present in the developmental and educational lives of our award recipients.

Many of you would have been there on the first day of starting school of our awardees, some twelve years ago to the last day of high school; helping with homework, preparing lunches, attending parent meetings; and here you are again today - proud, happy and satisfied parents, guardians, principals, teachers, relatives and friends! ***All of you truly deserve a round of applause!***

To the class of 2019, your hard work has paid off. Years of hard work have brought you to this moment, this place and this time. This is your time! We are here today in our numbers because we believe in you; we believe in you because you believed in yourselves.

That unshakeable belief in yourselves is what will carry you through moments of doubt, when the path before you seems to block your self-confidence, when you believe the river runs too deep to cross.

Today is a celebration of your achievement and contemplation of what now lies ahead. Your achievements today have availed opportunities for you and given you choices which are yours to take and use. You worked hard to get here.

As you make and take those choices, education remains the great equaliser and the great facilitator. As you make and take those choices, understand that success in life will not be determined by what is given to you, or what happens to you; your success will largely be determined by what you do with all that is given to you; what you do with all that happens to you; how hard you try; how far you push yourself; and how high you are willing to reach.

To the Class of 2019, we understand that you are in the middle of exciting times; you are in an age of a popular culture that says you can be rich and successful without much effort; you just have to become a celebrity!

However, it's not all gold that glitters. We live in a culture that tells you there is a quick fix for every problem and a justification for every selfish desire. As you are about to venture into the real world, the world of adults, the world of work, please be cautioned that meaningful achievement and lasting success does not happen in an instant. Meaningful achievement, lasting success is mostly and always about daily effort, about hard work and discipline.

Ladies and gentlemen, education is the foundation on which South Africa will exceed all obstacles. It takes good leadership, good management, involved parents, and structures and systems of discipline that enable learning. How to instil this in all schools that lack it, is a formula that we have to work on.

If we ever hope to compete as equals in the global world, then we need to pay greater attention to the knowledge and skills base of our youth. We are living during an era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Artificial Intelligence. We need these skills in order to adequately respond to the challenges facing us in all spheres of our existence as a country.

Although education is not a mandate of local government, we believe that education is important hence we have such special projects. The National Development Plan further recognize districts as a crucial interface of the Basic Education Sector in identifying best practice, sharing information, and providing support to schools.

Programme Director, we are also obliged to do so by the District Development Model (DDM), also known as the **Khawuleza Model** (meaning hurry up) that was launched by the President of South Africa Honourable Matamela Ramaphosa on the 26th November 2019 in Lephalale. Waterberg is one of the three municipalities chosen to pilot this model and be fully implemented in the 2020/2021 financial year by all 44 districts and 8 metros in the country.

The Khawuleza Model identifies district municipalities as centres for Integrated Development Planning and Service Delivery by all three spheres of government to provide quality services to communities across the country. The model is also aimed at strengthen Intergovernmental Relations structures. No more planning in silos as government and other organs of civil society.

Programme Director, we all know that the Department of Education has demarcated each municipal district into two. In our case we have Mogalakwena and Waterberg Districts of Education. For the 2019 Matric Awards, we are going to give awards per district and only award the overall best learner district wide.

Ladies and gentlemen, our 2019 Matric outcome has done us proud as the Waterberg District Municipality. We are encouraged by the quality of the results, the improvement and the opportunity they present to our children, especially those from our poorest communities.

Our district wide performance analysis from 2017 has been improving as follows:

- In 2017 we obtained 69.5% and placed at position two (2) at the provincial level

The 2018 Grade 12 results for the Waterberg District as per the new demarcation were as follows:

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

The 2019 Matric results are as follows:

For Mogalakwena District

No. wrote	No. Passed	Pass %	No. Failed	Fail %	Bachelors	Diploma	Higher Certificate
3457	2368	68.5	1089	31.4	794	916	663

There is a decrease of 3.1 % from the 2018 results. Although there is a decrease, it is still above the national norm of 65 %

- The District obtained position seven at the Provincial level

For Waterberg District

No. wrote	No. Passed	Pass %	No. Failed	Fail %	Bachelors	Diploma	Higher Certificate
2314	1884	81.42	430	18.58	787	683	400

There is an increase of 8.22 % from 2018 results

- The District obtained position two at the Provincial level

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

In the district we also have a Circuit with over 500 learners and a school with 50 or more candidates that represented the district at the Provincial level. These will clearly be outlined during the presentation of awards.

Programme Director, let me take this opportunity to applaud learners, teachers, schools and circuits which put our district on the map by obtaining good pass rates during the 2019 matric results (*names of those will be announced at a later stage*).

Let me also indicate that the Office of the Executive Mayor is assisting learners from Disadvantaged families within the district with bursaries for registration only at institution of higher learning. The closing date is the 14th February 2020

We once more congratulate Principals, School Management Teams SGBs for the total commitment they display in the education of our children.

Special thanks must be directed to the two District Directors (Pastor Julia Madela and Mr. Ndo Mangala) for working tirelessly in 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. Represent us very well and reach the pinnacle of success wherever you go. “*Hard work always pays*”

BAIE DANKIE, KEA LEBOGA, I THANK YOU!!!