

MAYOR THAMAGA MOTIVATES LEARNERS DURING BACK-TO- SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

"Thuto Ke Lesedi", Her Worship the Mayor of Blouberg Local Municipality, Cllr Maria Thamaga motivating learners during municipal Back-To-School Campaign.

The Blouberg Local Municipality on January 31, 2022, kick-started a 3-day Back-To-School programme to congratulate the 2021 Matric Class and motivate the Class of 2022 and learners in general as they start the new school year.

During the 3-day programme, the municipality will visit best performers and those that performed poorly across all education circuits to motivate them to focus on their studies as early as the beginning of the year to achieve good results at the end of the year.

The Mayor and his team, the Executive Committee(EXCO); Cllr Robert Makobela, Cllr Shirley Raphasha, Cllr Prince Motswabe and Ward 10 Councillor Hope Makhura who is also responsible for Special Focus programmes made their first stop at Seiphi Secondary School, Ga-Mochemi in Ward 14.

Seiphi, under Maleboho Central Circuit performed well by achieving an 84,6 % mark, an improvement compared to the previous year.

The second stop was Rakgari Secondary School at Montz Village, Ward 04. This school, under Maleboho West Circuit recorded a 61,5% mark, a significant improvement compared to its 20% pass in 2020.

The Rakgari Secondary School management extended their gratitude to Mayor Thamaga whom they credited for the school's improvement for her motivation to the Class of 2021. The Mayor visited the school last year as part of the municipality's Back-To-School programme to monitor the school's readiness for the academic year and to encourage learners following its poor performance. The school tripled the mark, by moving from 20% in 2020 to 61,5% in 2021.

Mayor Thamaga congratulated the schools for their improvement. She further advised learners to concentrate on their studies and urged them to stay away from things that will hamper their progress.

"Stay away from people and things that are going to disturb your from studying. Your focus should be education and nothing else. Again, your disadvantaged background should not stand on your way to success. Work hard, pass well, the government will provide funding for you to further your studies in order to improve your life and that of your families. My office has also set aside funds to assist those that are in need of funds for the registration for their studies in higher institutions of learning.

At Seiphi, the school management raised challenges; including lack of storage for text books, parents' interference on school work, while at Rakgari the issue of alcohol consuming by some learners, unsupportive parents and loud music from taverns disturbing the teaching and learning activities cited as one of the contributing factors to the school's poor performance.

The schools presented their strategies for further improvement on results and learners made an undertaking to the Mayor to achieve 100% pass rate.

In response, Mayor Thamaga indicated that the municipality will engage all the parties involved in a bid to remedy the situation.

The Speaker, Cllr Blanco Boloka and his team visited Rapetsoa Secondary School at Grootdraai village in Ward 05. The school under Maleboho West Circuit produced a 61,5% mark.

The Chiefwhip , Cllr Johanna Rangata visited Tshenyane Secondary School at Ga-Hlako, Ward 03. The school achieved 43,2%.

The municipality also donated schools shoes, sanitary towels and backpacks to the schools to be allocated to needy learners.





