

LIMPOPO MEC LEADS BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPORT VISIT IN MAHWELERENG CIRCUIT

MAHWELERENG: The Mahwelereng Circuit of Education today, Wednesday 14 January 2026, received the Limpopo Province MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Mr Basikopo Makamu, together with the Mogalakwena Local Municipality Mayor, His Worship Cllr Ngoako Taueatsoala, councillors, Speaker Cllr Senoamadi, Chief Whip Cllr Tsebe, EXCO Members, Ward Councillors, the Mogalakwena Education District led by Mr Phineas Matsoma, and social partners from the South African Democratic Teachers Union (SADTU). The delegation visited Ebenezer Secondary School and Gojela High School in the Mahwelereng Circuit to convey messages of support and encouragement to learners at the start of the 2026 academic year.

Learners across the country reported for the beginning of the new academic year today. Many learners attended school for the first time, while others returned to further their education journey.

Since 1994, the democratic government has prioritised education as a key instrument to transform the lives of young South Africans. These interventions have resulted in continuous improvements in the education system, as reflected in the steady increase in the overall matric pass rate.

At Ebenezer Secondary School, the school achieved a commendable 94.6% pass rate in 2025, an improvement from 90% in 2024. However, the school raised challenges including overcrowding, a shortage of furniture, and substance abuse among learners.

At Gojela High School, the school obtained a 94.2% pass rate, reflecting a slight decline from 95.1% in 2024. Challenges highlighted included overcrowding, dilapidated classrooms, a shortage of a school hall, laboratory and library facilities, as well as concerns about the outside school environment.

In his response, the Limpopo MEC for CoGHSTA, Mr Basikopo Makamu, congratulated both schools for their performance and emphasised the importance of education in shaping the future of young people.

“It is essential that we encourage learners and instil in them the importance of education. Education opens doors and can change lives,” said MEC Makamu.

The MEC also welcomed Grade 8 learners to their new school environment and urged the education community, including parents, educators and social partners, to support and guide them. He cautioned learners against destructive behaviour, drugs and substance abuse, emphasising that education requires dedication and discipline.

During the visit, the Mogalakwena Local Municipality also issued a safety warning to learners who cross the Ga-Madiba Bridge, which connects Mahwelereng and Ga-Madiba, particularly those travelling to different schools. Learners were strongly advised not to attempt crossing the small bridge, especially during the rainy season as it poses serious safety risks.

In conclusion, MEC Makamu indicated that the challenges raised by the schools would be submitted to the relevant government departments for necessary intervention.

End!