

# News Flash

Official LDPW News Update

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## MEC embarks on school visitation Programme

As part of governments 2013 Back-To-School meant to encourage and motivate learners, educators and parents as they enter the academic year ahead. MEC for Public Works Mme Thabitha Mohlala visited two schools in the Makhado Municipality in support of the Provincial Education drive to encourage learners, and most especially the 2013 matriculants, as the year begins..

This comes after the matric results were released nationally, where Limpopo achieved 69.9% pass rate, with the best learner in the country also coming from Limpopo province.

The MEC visited two schools under the Soutpansberg East circuit : which are Michael Denga Ramabulana (MDR) Secondary in Mailaskop and Rivubye secondary in Valdezia.

The first stop was at MDR Secondary. In 2011 the schools pass rate was 68% and in 2012 it achieved 92.5 % which made them the highest performing school in the circuit. Against all challenges the school faces; such as lack of admin block or office, shortage of classrooms; lack of desks, which leads them to write on boards and on their laps, the learners remained committed and excelled even on subjects such as chemistry , were they only did theory and no practical work as the school has no science laboratory.

Mohlala acknowledged the commitment as she addressed the general assembly led by Principal Mabogo “Today we walk with our heads high as Limpopo because of committed learners in schools such as yours” MEC Mohlala, said to loud cheers. Mohlala also encouraged learners to stop focusing on social media and attend to their studies.



MEC addressing learners at Michael Denga Ramabulana (MDR) Secondary School in Milaskop

This message on social media taking up learning time was emphasized at Rivubye Secondary school, as this was shown to be the second lowest performing school in the circuit, having dropped from 72% in 2011 to 66% pass rate in the 2012 matric exams.

The learners who were clearly ready on the first day of school were encouraged to take learning seriously, despite the circumstances most find themselves in. The school is in a farming area and most learners miss classes for months as they opt to work in farms to support their families.

Teachers committed to exert more effort in encouraging learners to remain focused on their studies in the year 2013 and also assist those experiencing dire family problems brought on by poverty.

“We know the school can do better , as in 2010 you only achieved 56% and in 2011, you achieved 72%, the drop in 2012 should not deterred you” Mohlala spoke, ending the visit, leaving learners to start with their first day.



Rivubye Secondary School learners



Learners listening attentively to the MEC while she addresses

## What you don't know about fitness and health can kill you

"Time and health are two precious assets that we don't recognize and appreciate until they are depleted," said Denis Watley. As this is the first month of the year lets make health our first priority. It is the department's greatest concern that the employees lead a healthy lifestyle to avoid health related illnesses so that they can be able to handle the daily chores at work without attitude. Healthy employees are happy people and are able to carry out both simple and strenuous tasks without pushing very hard.

Living healthy is very important; this is why we need to be educated on healthy lifestyle as this can open one's eyes to see the benefits of exercise and living a healthy lifestyle. The focus here is to inform you about the importance of eating healthy and also being aware of health related illness and treatment.

We need to be aware of the dangers of living unhealthy life such as heart disease or high cholesterol because if we keep on living this life, it could kill us. Living healthier doesn't have to take our time. It is very important for employees to stay healthy and fit so that they produce quality work and also adds productivity levels. This also helps create a strong body, strong mind and higher self-esteem. Healthy eating is about having more energy that calms down your mood and keeping yourself as healthy as possible, this can be achieved by learning some nutrition basics and using them in a way that works for you.



True Meals



A healthy lunch box for work

### **"Reasons why it is important to lead a healthy lifestyle**

- Remain free disease
- It makes life more enjoyable
- Leads to good physical and mental health
- Exercising as it is good for strength and flexibility

### **This is why we have to share and know the benefits of exercise by offering a few tips to share that leads to healthy lifestyle:**

- Drinking lots of water
- Having regular physical activity (exercise)
- Eating lots of fruits and vegetables and protein
- Well managed stress levels and lots of sleep
- Quit unhealthy habits

We all want to live long, happy lives surrounded by our loved ones. The better our health, the better we feel, the better quality of life will be. Good health allows one to live long, when one devotes in better health, you will be granting your family the gift of having their grandfathers, father and husband around for a longer time. The annual visits to the doctor's office just aren't enough anymore. You need to take control of your health starting at home as this will help in handling the daily chores at work without attitude.

Remember: Just because you're not sick doesn't mean you're healthy so let's kick start 2013 on a healthy tip.

# Key to success.....



The best resource in the library is the librarian...ask Maphate Rabodiba

Knowing is better than wondering, that is why the power of knowledge is still greater, for also knowledge itself is power. Everything around us is rapidly changing it is no longer the same as it used to be back in the days, that is why we need to stay well informed because the more you know, it's the more you can control and be able to anticipate the future.

This is why we have the Department's information hub (library) on the second floor, office no: 2-7 to provide Public Works officials the opportunity to enhance their knowledge and the description of their jobs which will then contributes effectively in their day to day work

Newsflash's Belinda Chabalala had one on one interview with our librarian Ms. Maphate Rabodiba to find out how the library operates, so that officials can be aware of the requirements and rules of the library.



Library book shelves



Mr. Maropeng Tefu at the library

## 1. How does the library operates?

- The library opens at 07h30 until 16h30 every-day
- Also operates during lunch
- Officials are encouraged to fill a membership forms to get a member ship number so they can be able to access the library and borrow books

## 2. What kind of books do you have on the shelves?

- Journals
- Novels
- Research books and other books related to the field of each official

## 3. Which materials are often requested?

- Construction books
- Human resource
- Project management
- IT
- Law books

## 4. How often do Public Works officials use the library?

- Always, the library might not be busy but then officials do make use of the library

## 5. Can you say that the visitation to the library by officials is seasonal or is the same through the year?

- It is seasonal; it becomes busy during June and October that's when the officials come in numbers, because it is peak time for research and exams.

## 6. Which gender dominates, coming in and out of the library?

- Both male and females equally visit the library

## LIBRARY RULES

- No eating
- No smoking
- No drinking
- No noise
- No use of a cell phone

It is a privilege that some seek, to have a library that demands less from them and to have it right inside their working field, knowledge plays a significant role in all spheres of human life; it is a powerful factor which aid man to attain success, Power and position in life lets go to the library and add on to what we know and learn what we didn't know.

SEE YOU THERE!!



# LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

### VISION

A leader in the provision and management of land and buildings.

### MISSION

Optimal utilization of resources in the provision and management of provincial land and buildings and the coordination of Expanded Public Works Programme.

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*“Remember the values*

*Happy people*

*Professionalism”*

*Re a Sama*

