

The Weekly

MEC HONOURS TOP PERFORMING VIRGINIA SCHOOL

January 18, 2013

The top 12 matriculants from Mamello High School in Virginia were commended for their outstanding 94.48 percent pass rate by the MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Mamiki Qabathe and the school governing body (SGB) last week.

“This is the fourth year Mamello High School has achieved such a high pass rate. The school has proven to be an inspiration to many other underprivileged schools in the province, with a powerful message that despite various challenges, you can achieve whatever you set your mind to,” said Qabathe.

The MEC officially handed over a refurbished computer lab to the school as well as 12 laptops to the top achievers.

Some of the most prominent business people from Welkom also attended the celebrations. The king of Kwaito, Arthur Mafokate and celebrities from SABC 1 participated in the event.

“It is always a privilege to be in a position to give back to the community, they are the reason we can do what we love,” he said.

Sultry dancer and musician Thulisile Madihlaba, better known as Chomee, also handed over a laptop to one of the students.

“Education is very important to me as I believe it is the key that will unlock all your dreams and change your life for the better,” said Chomee who graduated with a diploma in media studies at the University of Johannesburg last year.

The school’s principal, Setlhabo Raboroko, said he and the teachers are very proud of the learners and their hard work and sacrifices.

“Until five years ago, Mamello High School did very poorly. The situation had gotten so bad that we had to find a full-proof strategy to build both the learners’ self-confidence and the school’s reputation,” explained Raboroko.

He said the school added hours to the school days to ensure that the learners perform better than the previous years.

“One thing that is compulsory for all our matriculants is to come to school at 06:00 so they can receive help with their homework. Furthermore, they also have a two-hour compulsory study session after school. We have also cut the holidays in between terms; all the matriculants come to camp out at the school to start with revision,” Raboroko added.

Raboroko said they introduced the ‘buddy system’ where every teacher will take a learner under their wing and help them with both personal and education matters.

This year the SGB will be paying the registration fees of learners, who received four and more distinctions at their chosen tertiary Institution,

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“A lot of messages have been given to both the class of 2012’s matriculants and the new matriculants. But if you forget everything that was mentioned today, remember this: rather make education your boyfriend or girlfriend, because it will never leave you but it will only make you better,” said Qabathe.

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