



13 - 17 January 2020

Executive Mayor leads back to school campaign as schools reopen



The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi has used his interaction with learners on the first day of school to caution them against experimenting with drugs, and also urged them to prepare now for the November exams.

Shayi visited three schools on Wednesday morning as part of government's back to school campaign. His first stop was Hoerskool Merensky where he was joined by amongst others the mayor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality, Councillor Maripe Mangena, the MMC for Finance, Councillor City Modjadji and the chairperson of chairpersons, Councillor Masilo Maloko.

He told learners to start preparing now for the November exams. "My dear learners, the future beckons. Don't let the future happen without you. It's all about preparations. Start now to prepare for the exams in November. As leaders, government and as a community we will support you on this journey. Please do not do drugs. Reach out and go into study groups and surround yourself with friends that will help you in your studies."

Hoerskool Merensky is one of the best performing public schools in the district having achieved 97,7% in the 2019 Matric results with 132 bachelor passes, an increase of 10% from the 2018 bachelor passes. He proceeded to Greater Letaba Municipality where he was joined by the Mayor Peter Matlou and Speaker of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Wireless Sedibeng.

The Executive Mayor stopped at Modubatse High School at Kgapane which achieved 75% with 81 bachelor passes. The Executive Mayor told learners to build on the achievements of 2019. "We want you to work with the educators, your parents to ensure you achieve good results. Make sure next year you won't be sitting in the same chair you are sitting in this year. Give space to those that are coming after you. Run away from friends who want to give you marijuana. Do not look down on your parents"

He last stopped at Kgapane High School where he was also joined this time by Police Cluster Commander for Tzaneen, Major-General Maggy Mathebula. The school recorded 87% pass rate. The school principal, Mapula Sethaba told the Executive Mayor and his entourage how the school moved from 14% in 2009 to 87% in 2019, crediting the positive results to her hard-working educators.

"I have a hard-working team. We are disappointed that we have dropped from 91% in 2018 to 87% last year, but we appreciate the support from all of you. Because of the positive results we have been producing over the years, our enrolment keeps going up. We have already enrolled over 1300 this year. We do have challenges of drugs here in the school," said Sethaba.

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inside Mopani



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