



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEC SIWELA CONDEMS VANDALISM OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Vandalism of school property at Marcia Mokoena High School in Marite, Bushbuckridge Local Municipality in Mpumalanga is a serious concern for MEC for Human Settlements, Ms Violet Siwela. She challenged the school management, learners and local councillor to safeguard their properties in a meeting during her visit to the school on the first day of government's driven schools' re-opening programme.

During the meeting MEC Siwela appealed to stakeholders to look after the school property. ***"It is the responsibility for all of us to safe guard the school property, both local leadership and parents must work with the school management to fight crimes in schools"***. Despite the challenges the school is one of the improved schools in the region by achieving 93.7% in last year's grade 12 final results.

School principal, Mr. Lodrik Mathobela assured MEC Siwela and her entourage that despite the challenges the aim for this year is to reach 100%. The current crop is highly motivated and behaves well in and outside the school," charged Mathobela.

The schools' visits re-opening programme seeks to ensure that teaching and learning commences on the first of schools. It also establishes the state of readiness and challenges faced by schools. Reports culminating from the visits will inform the necessary interventions. Mpumalanga obtained a 78.6% pass rate in the 2015 grade 12 results which is a slight drop from the 2014 results.

President Jacob Zuma announced few years ago that public representatives visit schools to encourage the culture of learning and teaching. The programme also diagnoses challenges and possible interventions to improve the state of schools. MEC Siwela further commended the good behaviour displayed by the learners which was visible during the morning devotion. The three day schools' visit programme ends this Friday.

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