

MEDIA STATEMENT-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

08 January 2017

NEHAWU LIMPOPO MEDIA STATEMENT ON THE OUTCOME OF LIMPOPO MATRIC RESULTS

Nehawu Limpopo notes the announcement of the Limpopo Grade 12 results which indicates a decline in terms of the pass rate which is at 67,2%. We must indicate in advance that we are highly disappointed at the continuous downward spiral of the pass rate which was announced to be at 67, 2% for 2016 which indicates 3, 4% decline from the 2015 outcome. This is a critical situation which needs to be arrested and it requires radical intervention to put the province back to an upward trajectory again.

Part of the immediate intervention must include resolving once and for all the issue of unpaid temporary educators which create a situation on uncertainty in the classroom because of an unpaid educator. Primary to that is for government to do away with their austerity measures in the form of Personnel Management Framework which limits powers of departments to run efficiently the departments with ease.

We also believe that it is about time the department listens to the call by labour unions for government to commit resources and run both Saturday class and school holidays classes. This is a tried and tested remedy which the department does not want to commit to. It has proved successful as an intervention in the Vuwani crisis and our call remains that it should not be used only during a crisis like Vuwani but be used as a normal programme of the department focused on all matriculants throughout the province. All best achievers will tell you how these extra classes assisted them.

We however take pride of the achievement of learners in the Vuwani area who have performed very well amidst all the disruptions they faced. Our call goes to community leaders to avoid using education as a bargaining tool for their own grievances which are totally unrelated to the provision of education and all efforts must be made to ensure that 2017 is disruption free.

We are also proud that despite the drop in the pass rate we continued to compete very well in as far as the top achievers are concerned nationally with Limpopo alone contributing 12 learners out of a total of 22 top learners in the whole country.

We further congratulate the best learner, a 17 year old little girl Miss Nemavhadwe Malamba for her achievement and we wish her the best in her future learning. We further acknowledge the efforts by all educators in the province who work under difficult conditions but endure such conditions to ensure that education remains accessible to every child in this province. We further commend SADTU for their effort and more especially their efforts in the breakaway camps for Vuwani learners where they even assisted the department in mobilizing educators for those camps.

We also agree with the statement issued by our National Office that these results further necessitates a thorough investigation of the factors that are responsible for poor results especially in rural provinces like Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo. Measures needs to be put in place as a matter of urgency to deal with the problems faced by these provinces.

In this regard, the union working with SADTU and Progressive Youth Alliance (PYA) in the Province will urgently convene an education alliance meeting to thoroughly analyse these outcomes and map up a way forward for the future in preparations for the class of 2017.

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For further information, please contact: Jacob Adams @ 082 558 5966 or Calvin Tshamano @ 081 558 1988 or email: khaya@nehawu.org.za Visit NEHAWU website: www.nehawu.org.za