



Executive Summary of the **Budget Speech 2017/18**

Ms Martha Bartlett MEC for Education

Programme 1: Administration: R653 Million

- The Northern Cape Department of Education retained an unqualified regulatory audit report for the 2015/16 financial year.
- In terms of our No Fee school policy, R223million has been allocated for the 2017/18 financial year. 189 601 learners are benefiting from No Fee schools.
- R10million are allocated for an estimated 20 000 learners that will be exempted from paying school fees.
- To strengthen the monitoring of School Based Assessments, we have initiated the School Bag Audit programme. Officials conduct visits to schools to assess the curriculum coverage and School Based Assessments.
- The Drop All and Read Campaign, Reading Clubs and Spelling Bee Competition will promote the culture of life-long reading.
- The Basic Education Sector adopted the Incremental Implementation of African Languages (IIAL). The department continues to provide resources i.e. additional teachers, workbooks, train and provide ongoing support to these teachers so as to realise success of the IIAL.
- As of this year, the Sector will use the Learner Unit Tracking System (LURITS) as the only sector reporting system with regards to learner numbers.

Programme 2: Public Ordinary Schools Education R4.1 Billion

- A total of 20 Teach SA Ambassadors were placed in schools in February 2017, specialising in Mathematics and Physical Science.
- Through our partnership with SIOC and Rhodes University, a total of 84 of the initial 108 teachers are expected to graduate with a B.Ed Degree by the end of 2017.
- We are engaging the Sol Plaatje University on 34 prospective B. Ed Degree graduates with the aim of offering them permanent posts, preferably, nearest to their residential areas.
- We will explore the possibility together with the Sol Plaatje University as part of their Indigenous Language Development programme, for the introduction of Nama in two schools in the Northern Cape, for the 2018 school academic year.
- The 8th General Elections of School Governing Bodies (SGBs) will take place from 1 to 31 March 2018.
- The QLTC will be coordinated from the Office of the MEC, as per resolution of the NC Education Summit 2016.
- By the end of the 2017/18 financial year, a world class Internet Broadcasting Project (IBP) studio will be set up or established in Kimberley and all earmarked under performing schools will be provided with necessary IT equipment that will allow them to connect to the studio.
- Enhancing competency and accountability, we now have compulsory induction training for all newly appointed School Management Teams (SMTs) before assumption of duty.
- We have released a Gazette for CS-Educators on 321 promotional posts on 5 June 2017.
- As of 2017/18 financial year, the MST Strategy will have a special focus programme on Grades 4 and 7.

Programme 3: Independent Schools Subsidies R9.16 million

- The 2017/18 budget for the Independent Schools is R9.1million and is expected to grow to R10.2million by 2019/20 financial year.

Programme 4: Public Special Schools Education R140 million

- The total budget for Conditional Grant for Learners with Profound Intellectual Disabilities amounts to R2million in 2017/18 and is estimated to grow to R7.3million by the 2019/20 financial year.
- This appropriation shall be invested so as to afford the learners with severe to profound intellectual disabilities a fair chance to develop health, social and educational needs.

Programme 5: Early Childhood Development (ECD) R99.26 million

- We continue to register significant strides with regard to access to Grade R. A total of 381 public ordinary schools are offering Grade R to 19 221 learners.
- We are supporting 55 ECD Community based centres offering Grade R to 2 349 learners.
- A total of 150 Grade R practitioners are in their final year to complete an ECD NQF Level 6 Diploma at the University of the North West.
- A total of 620 Grade R practitioners in Public Ordinary Schools and 88 practitioners in subsidised Community Centres will be supported in curriculum delivery.

Programme 6: Infrastructure Development R623.57 million

- Key multiyear capital projects, some already underway others still to commence within the 2017/18 MTEF period:
The six (6) new schools are:
 - 1. Barkly West (Frances Baard)
 - 2. Redirile (State of the Art school - Frances Baard)
 - 4. Steynsville (Pixley Ka Seme)
 - 5. Wrenchville Primary JTG
 - 6. Dithakong (John Taolo Gaetsewe)

The four (4) replacement schools are:

- 1. Greenpoint Primary (Frances Baard)
- 2. Karos (ZF Mgcawu)
- 3. Khiba Middle School (John Taolo Gaetsewe)
- 4. Kitlanyang (school and hostel; John Taolo Gaetsewe)
- 5. Loxton Primary School (Pixley Ka Seme)
- We aim to provide a total of 4470 chairs and 484 desks to schools in need within the 2017/18 financial year.

Programme 7: Examinations and Education related Service R142 million

- The National Senior Certificate (NSC) final examination will be written from 23 October to 28 November 2017.
- The Provincial Education Departments will release their matric results on 05 January 2018.

Support Programmes

National School Nutrition Programme

- We are able to provide a decent meal to 205 525 learners in Quintile 1 to 3 schools through the Conditional Grant. An additional 56 354 learners in Quintile 4 to 5 schools also receive a daily meal through the equitable share.
- A total of R180million is allocated for 2017/18, constituted of R161million from the NSNP Conditional Grant and R19million from the Equitable Share allocation.

Learner Transport

- A total number of 29 115 learners are benefiting from school transport on 400 routes across the Province.
- We are busy engaging the Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison to discuss the migration of this function back to the Department of Education on 1 April 2018

School Safety

- The Department of Education and the Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison is in the process to finalising the School Safety Protocol that will seek to formalize engagements to all schools to address safety related matters.

In no uncertain terms, we remain confident about the provision of quality learning and teaching as we continue to improve education in our beautiful Province.

WE NEED YOU!!!