

**PRESENTATION BY THE HEAD; EDUCATION, MRS. MOYANE AT THE OCCASION OF THE EHLANZENI INSTALMENT OF THE RHANDZA XIKOLO XA WENA CAMPAIGN ON 26 MAY 2026 At CHIEF FUNWAKO SECONDARY SCHOOL**

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Programme Director and Chief Director: District Coordination, **Mr. Chukudu Manyabene**

Executive Mayor of the City of Mbombela Local Municipality, **Cllr Sibongile Makhushu-Mazibuko**

Ubukhosi BeNdabuko led by **UmntwaneNkosi - Mjindi Royal Council**

Ward Councilors

Representatives from the Business Sector

Members of the Governing Body Members led by **Mr. JV Masuku**

Ehlanzeni District Director, **Dr Jabulani Ndlovu**

District management Team,

Circuit Manager, **Ms. Queen Ceko**

Principal of Chief Funwako Secondary School , Mr Jabulani Nkosi

Representatives from the Media

Members of the School Management Team

Colleagues from our Sister Departments

Teachers

Parents

Leadership of the Education Sector Unions

Members of the Representative Council of Learners

Learners

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

## Sanibonani. Dumelang. Good Day.

It is indeed a great honour and privilege to join you [today](#) during the Ehlanzeni District instalment of the Rhandza Xikolo Xa Wena Campaign.

As we gather here [today](#), a day after the commemoration of **Africa Day**, we continue to reflect on the enduring vision of a united, prosperous and self-reliant Africa founded on the principles of solidarity, dignity and development.

Africa Day reminded us of the rich heritage, cultural diversity and resilience of our continent while reaffirming our collective responsibility to advance the aspirations of Agenda 2063.

This year's Africa Day theme, "Sixty-three Years of Unity, Integration and Development, let's celebrate together," calls upon all Africans to preserve and promote the identity, languages, values and cultures that define us as a people.

It reminds us that the future of Africa depends on our ability to invest in our children, strengthen our education systems and build communities that work together in unity and purpose.

[Today's](#) gathering here at Chief Funwako Secondary School is therefore more than just a campaign programme. It is a demonstration of Ubuntu in Action.

It is a living expression of the African philosophy: **Umntu Ngumuntu Ngabantu** loosely translated meaning "***a person is a person through other people.***"

Through the Rhandza Xikolo Xa Wena Campaign, government, business, communities, parents and stakeholders come together to improve conditions in our schools and restore dignity to our learners.

This campaign reminds us that education is a societal matter and that the success of our children requires collective responsibility and active citizenship.

We are particularly encouraged by the spirit of partnership demonstrated here [today](#).

We acknowledge and appreciate the contribution made by the Department in responding to some of the challenges confronting this school.

We are aware that Chief Funwako Secondary School has experienced overcrowding, which places pressure on infrastructure and impacts the teaching and learning environment.

As part of our intervention measures, the Department has already delivered new learner furniture (**400 desks**).

Mobile classrooms to alleviate overcrowding and create a more conducive environment for learning and teaching have already been delivered and are currently being assembled.

We are equally pleased today the Department is donating one hundred pairs of school shoes to deserving learners as an act of Ubuntu, restoring dignity and confidence to many young people who come to school daily under difficult circumstances.

We further wish to express our profound gratitude to Standard Bank for donating office furniture to the school and to Sappi for the generous donation of printing paper.

These contributions demonstrate the importance of collaboration between government and the private sector in advancing the education of our children.

Today marks a truly historic milestone for the learners of Chief Funwako Secondary School.

Our Grade 10 learners become the first beneficiaries of the *Ubuhlebuzile e-Learning Programme*, as part of the provincial rollout of **80,000** learner tablets across Mpumalanga.

This is more than a moment. It is the beginning of a new era of learning, innovation, and opportunity.

On this special occasion, I am honored to call forward **Nothando Fina Vilankulu**, a Grade 10 learner from this school.

**Nothando** makes history today as the very first learner in Mpumalanga to receive a tablet under this programme.

As we celebrate all **80,000 learners** who will benefit from this initiative, we do so symbolically by placing this device in her hands, trusting that she will use it not only as a tool for learning, but as a gateway to knowledge and growth.

May she, like all her peers, use this opportunity to unlock her full potential and shape a brighter future.

What makes this moment even more inspiring is that **Nothando** is not only a pioneer, but also a top achiever having emerged as the best overall learner following the 2026 grade 10 results of the first-term results in this school.

**Noluthando** represents excellence, determination, and promise that this programme seeks to nurture.

This intervention is not merely about providing devices, it is about restoring dignity, enhancing concentration, and creating an environment where every learner feels valued and empowered.

When a child learns in a dignified and supportive environment, they develop confidence, self-worth and a renewed sense of hope.

As the **Mpumalanga Department of Education continues with the Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education Roadshow** across the province, we remain committed to promoting indigenous African languages as instruments of learning, social cohesion and cultural preservation.

**Language carries our identity**, heritage, knowledge systems and collective memory.

Through mother tongue education, we seek to improve learner comprehension, academic performance and self-confidence while restoring the dignity of African languages in our classrooms and communities.

The reflections of Africa Day therefore continue to resonate with us [today](#).

They call upon us not only to celebrate our heritage, but to actively preserve it through education, language and culture.

They challenge us to nurture learners who are proud of their African identity, confident in their abilities and committed to building a better Africa.

As public servants, we are equally reminded of the importance of the Batho Pele Principles.

We are called upon to place our people at the centre of service delivery through consultation, accountability, transparency, respect and excellence.

To **the learners of Chief Funwako Secondary School**, appreciate these opportunities and use them to change your lives and the lives of your families and communities.

Remain disciplined, focused and committed to your studies.

Education remains the most powerful weapon to defeat poverty, inequality, unemployment and hopelessness.

To parents and community members, continue supporting this school and protecting educational infrastructure.

A school belongs to the community. When we protect our schools, we protect the future of our children and the future of Africa itself.

Let us continue to work together to build schools that are centres of excellence, inclusion, discipline and hope.

Let us embrace Ubuntu in everything that we do or say. Let us continue to advance unity, social cohesion and active citizenship as we build the Africa we want.

Together, we can nurture a generation that is proud of its African identity, culture and languages while contributing meaningfully towards an Africa that is innovative, prosperous and globally competitive.

**Ngiyabonga**