



GAUTENG PROVINCE

EDUCATION

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

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MEC Lesufi Officially Launches Katlehong Engineering School

The Gauteng MEC for Education and Youth Development, Mr Panyaza Lesufi, has today **20 August 2019**, officially launched Katlehong Engineering School of Specialisation with a focus on: Manufacturing, Transport & Logistics.

The school is situated in the Eastern Economic Development corridor, where the major industries are Transport, Manufacturing and Logistics. In this corridor, for example, Nigel is where trains are manufactured.

Our partnership with the private sector has been fundamental in providing learners with workplace experience, learnerships, artisanships and entrepreneurial skills. The school has partnered with the following entities: MerSeta, Samsung Electronics, Hatfield VW and Ford Group, Komatsu Mining, Austrian Education Department and Tshwane IDC.

MerSeta (Manufacturing, engineering and related services SETA) will assist learners from this school who will pass Mathematics/ Tech Maths and Physical Science, to be trained as qualified motor technicians at Ford, VW, Audi, Toyota and Mazda. They will also be assisting the school in funding and upgrading the workshops to enable the school to be accredited as a formal training centre in future.

The school has 17 apprentices. These are former learners and youth who are in an apprenticeship programme. They do their theory at the school and are then placed in various automotive industries to do the practical component.

Samsung Electronics will continue to take Grade 10-12 learners doing electrical technology to their academy in Midrand for additional training on weekly basis. Learners will be exposed to the latest technology in electronics.

The Department will open 35 Schools of Specialisation by 2022. Over the past three years we have launched about eight of such schools. They are: Curtis Nkondo-Maths, Science and ICT, Engineering and Entrepreneurship; Magaliesburg-Science and ICT (Agriculture); Phelindaba and Edward Phatudi-Maths, Science and ICT (Nuclear Science and Technology); Mohloli- Maths, Science and ICT (Maritime); Soshanguve-Engineering (Automotive); Kwa-Thema Skills- Technical Occupation (Maths, Technical, Creative Arts, Services and CAT); Pace Secondary-Commerce and Entrepreneurship.

These schools and their specialty are spread across the 5 Economic Development Corridors:

1. Northern Corridor: Automotive, Research, Innovation (Knowledge-based), Nuclear Science & Technology
2. Eastern Corridor: Manufacturing, Transport (aeronautics), logistics
3. Central Corridor: Financial Services, Hospitality, Pharmaceuticals
4. Western Corridor: Agro-processing, Tourism, Archaeology, Logistics
5. Southern Corridor: Tourism & Entertainment, Agro-processing, Logistics, Hydro-industries

Schools of Specialisation target talented learners to attend a school focusing on one of the following five disciplines:

- Maths, Science and ICT
- Commerce and Entrepreneurship
- Engineering
- Performing and Creative Art and
- Sports

“We are excited about our partnership with different companies in the private sector, among others they will also support the school with training services and material. Indeed, we would like to thank all our partners for investing in our children. If we fail to change the education landscape, we will never succeed on empowering our children with necessary skills to improve our economy. It is important to invest in our children because they are our future. This is revolution and quality education we are advocating for which learners will benefit from,” said MEC Panyaza Lesufi.

For more information, contact the Gauteng Department of Education’s Spokesperson, Steve Mabona on 072 574 3860.

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