

EHLANZENI TVET COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

College
receives top
honours in
PMR Africa
awards

*Ekulindeni
Career
Guidance*

**Provincial
sports battle**

Newly
appointed
Campus
Manager



Ehlanzeni TVET College

Second Edition July 2023

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IN TOUCH, IN TUNE

Early in the month, my office issued the 1st Edition of our 'In Touch, In Tune' for the 2023 Academic year and covered matters on registration and enrolment, academic achievement, governance, appointments and resignations as well as the reconfiguration of senior management.

Post Provisioning Norms (PPN) implementation:

In the 1st Edition the need to reconfigure Senior Management as efforts to move closer to the implementation of the PPN was explained. For the benefit of those not acquainted with the PPN structure it suffice to indicate that this accommodates four deputy principal positions (Academic, Corporate, Innovation and Finance). In this edition I wish to focus on the DPA and DPI for better clarity and contextualization. The Academic Unit houses Curriculum implementation for Ministerial and Occupational Programmes, Examination Services, Student Support Services and Campus Management. This implies that the sectional heads leading the listed sub units and Campus Managers report to the Acting Deputy Principal for Academic Services (Mr Mnisi).

The Innovation and Development Unit house Registration Services, Marketing and Communication as well as Partnerships and Linkages. This therefore implies that all the sectional heads leading these units report to the Acting Deputy Principal for Innovation and Development (Mr Lukhele). The above brief is meant to clarify and eliminate possible confusion as to who reports to who and I hope it achieved its intention. Routing of documents should reflect this configuration

Barberton Campus Management:

In the previous edition I indicated



Mr EM Mbuyane; College Principal

that Ms Khoza's request to transfer from Barberton Campus had been acceded to. Mr F Mahlalela has been appointed to act as Campus Manager for Barberton Campus, congratulations to him and we implore everybody to give him the support necessary for him to unleash his potential. The marching orders to Mr Mahlalela and team are an open secret, and that is 85% and above subject pass rate in all programmes and anything less than that is not welcome.

Class Disruptions:

The 1st quarter got clouded with class disruptions for various reasons. The loss of tuition time due to strikes are without doubt bad for our students irrespective of who causes it. Our students are always and will always be the greatest losers. Ninety-five percent of our students are NSFAS beneficiaries and loosing classes at the rate it happened during the 1st trimester affects the academic achievement of our financial needy students leading to loss of the funding.

Audit Preparations and Execution:

The 1st quarter was characterized by intense preparation for audit

and our finance team under the leadership of Mr Mogashoa acquitted themselves very well to produce the Annual Financial Statement under difficult circumstances to meet the submission deadline of 31 st March 2023. The difficulty with the preparations is attributed to the fact that a disclaimer audit opinion requires one to perform work of two years when harbouring hopes of turning the outcome to a different and desirable outcome.

The business of audit is not a finance business unit alone as most seem to think, it is an enterprise for all and I therefore implore all within the College to rally behind the custodian (Finance Unit) and support them in any form possible to enhance ease of satisfying the auditing team.

Accreditation of workshops:

The lack of accreditation of workshops rates amongst the critical challenges facing the College. It is well documented that Report 191 programmes in their current form will be phased out and replaced by Occupational Qualifications whose implementation require accredited workshops, this therefore means that getting accreditation is not negotiable. A four-member task team comprising lead by Mr Lukhele has been established to aggressively confront the accreditation agenda. The month of September 2023 is the deadline for the team to have all workshops for use in 2024 accredited.

Governance:

The Student Governance Constitution recently got successfully reviewed by the relevant stakeholders. At the time of this write-up the reviewed constitution was yet to be signed off by the College Council.

Corporate services division worked tirelessly to provide support to the finance division in ensuring that the College's annual financial statements (AFS) are submitted within the required timeframes.

Seventy percent (70%) of the lecturers that enrolled for an Advance Programme in Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) with Witwatersrand University (Wits University) passed all the modules, twenty-five percent (25%) will repeat one (1) module and five (5%) will repeat all the modules. Repeated modules are done at the cost of an employee. Fifty-eight (58) bursary applications were received for 2023 academic year, thirty-two (32) new applicants were approved. Eleven (11) applications were rejected and there were two (2) withdrawals.

Consequence management is implemented using the relevant labour relations policy, procedure and process. Consequence management ensures that corrective measures that encourage behavioural change and policy are adhered to.

Three hundred and six (306) information, communication and technology (ICT) licenses which are NComputing, VSpace, Eye Spy and Remote Desktop Client Access Licenses (CALs) were renewed during the first quarter of 2023. Extension of support has been requested from Microsoft for Windows Server 2016 Standard. The College will be fast-tracking the cloud migration project in order to utilise the cloud service. Old laptops are used as pool laptops and extra ten (10) laptops will be procured. Fire suspension, raised flooring, access control and cooling system of the server rooms were serviced as per the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) standards.

Maintenance of computer labs' air-conditionings, computer labs fire extinguishers are underway and day-to-day software and hardware support is done. Business management continuity (BMCP) plan project is currently underway. BCM will assist during national disasters in order to ensure that teaching and learning (T&L) is not compromised. ITS upgrade from 3.1 to 4.1 took place before 2022 College closure. Access control and close circuit

MESSAGE FROM CORPORATE SERVICES



Ms A Mayosi; Deputy Principal: Corporate Services

television (CCTV) systems project is at 70% implementation stage. ICT network upgrade project has been concluded, firewalls firmware was upgraded to the latest version in order to increase the defence from vulnerabilities, software patching was done without errors at all sites and system logs were reviewed for usage activity and no data breaches recorded for the period January to March 2023.

The College received a Golden Arrow Award from PMR Africa for Mpumalanga Business Excellence. Media briefings and school visits were conducted by corporate communications. Corporate communications also hosted a media networking session in Mbombela.

No occupational injuries reported on students, staff and visitors for the period January to March 2023. Waste management facilities at Nelspruit Campus is at ninety 90% completion, while others are at procurement stage.

MESSAGE FROM BUSINESS AND INNOVATION OFFICE



Mr MT Lukhele; Acting Deputy Principal: Business and Innovation

Our college has achieved commendable results in all our programmes in the previous academic year. Our students have performed exceptionally well in their examinations, however, we experienced some challenges as a result of pending results, but our students consistently demonstrated the zeal and zest to start the academic year with a bang when they scooped the first position in the Province in extracurricular activities, Athletics in particular.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our students for their perseverance and dedication towards their studies. I would also like to extend my appreciation to our highly qualified and dedicated staff members who have consistently guided and supported our students to help them achieve their fullest potential.

We have responded very well in the quest to make teaching and learning smarter and that is observed by the engagement and commitment shown in the training to enhance the drive of 4IR and technology.

We aim to provide our students with the best possible resources, infrastructure and staff members who ensure that our students receive a well-rounded education that equips them with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in their chosen fields.

As we move forward, I am confident that our College will continue to excel and produce proud and successful graduates. Once again, I congratulate our students, and all members for their exemplary performance and look forward to another successful academic year.

In my new responsibility as the acting Deputy Principal: Innovation, and facing today's fast-paced and ever-changing world, Innovation is becoming increasingly important for institutions to stay competitive and successful. Innovation refers to creating new ideas, products or processes that generate value and meet the market's needs. It is the key to unlocking new opportunities, improving efficiency and increasing profitability.

However, innovation cannot be achieved in isolation. Collaboration is also essential for driving innovation. Collaboration comes in many forms such as partnerships, co-creation and crowdsourcing. When institutions work together, they can leverage their collective knowledge and expertise to achieve breakthroughs that may not be possible alone.

Innovation and collaboration go hand in hand. Collaborating with others can provide invaluable insights and perspectives that can help to refine and improve ideas. Additionally, collaboration allows for the pooling of resources, which can reduce costs and increase effectiveness.

Innovation and collaboration require a mindset shift. Institutions must be willing to put aside traditional thinking and embrace new ideas and perspectives. Collaboration requires trust, open communication and a willingness to compromise. However, when done correctly, innovation and collaboration can lead to breakthroughs that transform industries and change the world.

To conclude, innovation and collaboration are essential for institutions to stay ahead in today's competitive landscape. By working together, we can leverage our collective knowledge and resources to achieve breakthroughs that may not be possible alone. Collaboration provides diverse perspectives and insights that can refine and improve innovative ideas. Through innovation and collaboration, we can drive growth, improve efficiency and create value for our customers. Ehlanzeni TVET College will never be the same.



The College leads in the provision of Student Support Services as it serve a diverse student population with an enabling learning environment. The Student Support Services' objective is to improve student success in programmes offered in the college and opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities, networking activities, cultural events, peer mentorship and skill workshops. The SSS advocates for a holistic approach and a student-centered approach that seeks to increase the chances of success and employability of students.

Student services offices, by contrast, may focus more on providing support to remove personal, physical and financial barriers to help learners reach their academic goals.

Removing the barriers

Every learner endure some difficulties. It could be financial issues, problems retaining childcare or a confidence crisis brought on by a particularly rigorous class. Such obstacles can obstruct student progress. Student Support Services assist in keeping these students enrolled by providing them with resources



Ms VK Sikota; Student Support Services Manager

to overcome their barriers to completion. Tutoring, financial aid services, student healthcare, mental health services and a variety of other programs that can help students strive and achieve their objectives.

Helping students achieve their goals

The majority of students are driven by professional ambitions. They see a qualification as a method to enhance their earnings begin a new career or positioning themselves for advancement. The Student Support Services help students connect with

what they learn in class to the skills they need to be successful in their careers. Career counselling, internships and other career-related activities that address the underlying motivation that drove students to the College in the first place.

Student Support Services – 2022 moving to 2023

The year 2022 was not an easy year, however the SSS section tried its best to ensure that all the SSS activities that were meant to meet the needs of the College took place and that they were a success.

Starting from the induction of students where all the College registered students were inducted and assisted with the transition from the school life into the College life. The section worked very well with the Student Representative Council of 2022 and every activity that was implemented was planned with the SRC. Of course, there were challenges however the section was able to learn from those challenges and in 2023 those challenges will assist the section to do better.

The Student Support section ensured that the students became part of all the extra-curricular

activities that were planned by the College Sports, Arts and Culture South Africa which is starting from the College level to Provincial and ended on the National level. Mapulaneng Campus won the 2022 inter-campus Athletics Champions. Mlumatlwa Campus won the 2022 inter-campus Arts and Culture Champions. All of these events were successful.

The section worked very well with Higher Health in supporting the students in making sure that the health and wellness needs of students are met. Two students one from Mthimba campus and Mapulaneng campus were selected to participate on the 10th December 2022 in the Mpumalanga Cultural experience event which is an event that is organised by the MEC for Sports Arts Culture, Honourable Ms. Shongwe.

2023 has started on a right foot with the section successfully hosting a formal Peer Educators training in collaboration with the Higher Health. The training took place during the weekend of 24 – 26 of March 2023 at Bundu lodge, White River. The purpose of Peer Educators is to reinforce, inspire or change behaviours through workshops, advocacy projects, discussion, interactive activities and role-playing in the college.

The drive of the training was to educate at least ten individuals per campus in order to have maximum effect in how to facilitate discussion or activities, in how and when to refer peers to other resources and in how to inspire change in topics including: alcohol, drugs, cultural competency, finances, fitness, LGBTQ topics, nutrition, sexual health and stress.

Giving the students something to look forward to throughout the year, the 2023 inter college athletics took place on date 04 March 2023 at Lowveld High

sporting ground, Nelspruit. Where all 7 campuses competed for a place in the CoSACSA Mpumalanga competing with Nkangala TVET College and Gert Sibande TVET College. The Provincial competition was hosted by Gert Sibande TVET College at Lillian Ngoyi Stadium, Secunda where the college participants raised the College flag high by securing position one. The National COSACSA athlete competition was held in Pietermaritzburg, KZN from 27-29 April 2023.

The Section is ready to provide students in the upcoming activities and events and provide students with excellent academic content to ensure that their academic success is established to respond to students' cognitive, psychological, emotional and social needs and to facilitate the interaction between the College and students



MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP

It gives me great pleasure as the SRC President of the College to share the remarkable achievements we have made over the past year as well as our aspirations for the future. As we embark on yet another semester at our esteemed institution.

One of our notable achievements being the successful implementation of an online applications system, which has simplified the admission process for prospective students. This portal not only enables students to conveniently submit their applications, it also provides them with easy access to important information such as support services and result checking. We are proud to have made these strides in embracing technological advancements to enhance the overall student experience.

Furthermore, I would like to highlight some of the areas that we believe require further attention and improvement. Firstly, our aim is to achieve a high pass rate among all students. We are dedicated to providing a conducive learning environment, equipped with the necessary resources and support to ensure academic success. Through continuous assessment and enhancement of our teaching methodologies, we strive to empower our students to reach their full potential.

Additionally, it is our objective to ensure that all students receive their certificates and diplomas in a timely manner upon successful completion of their programmes. We understand the significance of these documents and the impact they have on your future endeavours. Rest assured, we are working diligently to streamline the certification and diplomatic process and eliminate any delays.

In our commitment towards fostering a diverse and inclusive College community, we believe it is important to promote cultural and artistic expression. We envision a College where regular sports, arts, and cultural activities take place - allowing students to showcase their talents and passions. We have created sports committee to oversee all processes and as part of this initiative we are actively exploring the establishment of an inter-campus soccer league, netball, and basketball tournaments which will create opportunities for friendly competition and camaraderie.

We are also working on resuscitating and making the

College beauty pageant competition permanent in all campuses and ensure an immaculate graduation and award giving ceremonies for both the National Certificates (Vocational) and the Nated or Report 191 programmes.

On another note, I am pleased to announce that through the new financial service provider, all student allowances will be settled promptly. We understand the financial challenges students face and aim to deal with any unnecessary burdens that may affect their educational journey. The introduction of this new service ensures timely disbursement of funds, allowing them to focus on their studies without concerns about financial matters.

Moreover, we hold steadfast in our commitment to prioritize our unemployed graduates when vacancies arise in the College. We believe in giving our graduates the best possible start to their professional careers and we will actively work towards securing suitable employment opportunities for them.

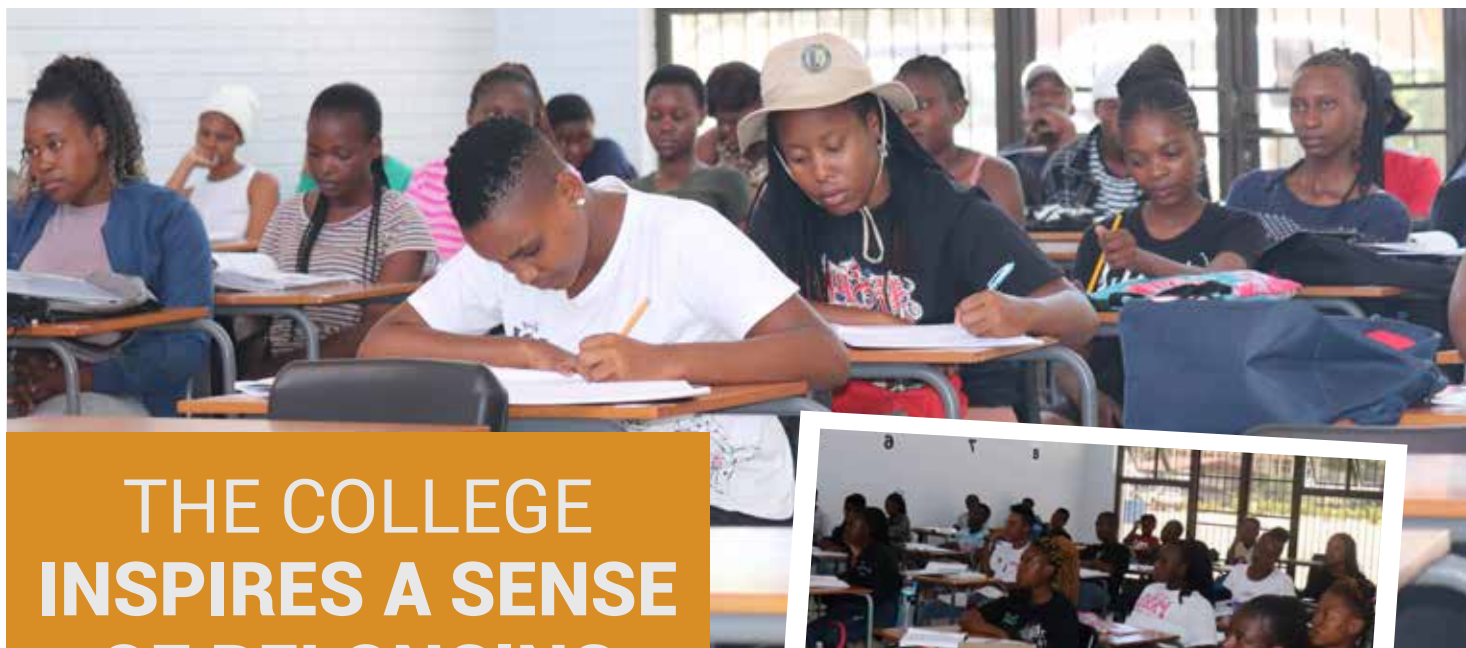
We are also aspiring to create an educational environment that is not only intellectually stimulating but also physically equipped to meet the students' academic needs. We are constantly upgrading and expanding our facilities, ensuring that students have access to all the essential resources, laboratories and equipment that foster an effective learning experience while making sure that the safety of our students is well taken care of. This will be possible by ensuring that all the available accommodations are well accredited and that they meet the safety standards for students to occupy.

In conclusion, these achievements and future endeavours reflect on our unwavering determination to provide an exceptional educational journey for all our students. As we navigate through these challenging times, I encourage students to remain focused, resilient and engage in the vast array of opportunities provided. Together, we can create a College that thrives on excellence, inclusivity and continuous improvement.

Thank you for your unwavering support and I look forward to witnessing our collective growth and success.



Mr C Nkosi; College SRC President



THE COLLEGE INSPIRES A SENSE OF BELONGING

First-year students with different academic, social skills, and they come from different backgrounds and cultures

Many are also making big life adjustments, a test of resilience across a gap that in many cases entails a geographical move, new people, new environments, new learning styles and new educational demand.

Despite their diverse backgrounds, the one thing that all our students have in common is that they come to the College to access education and they become entitled to relevance, support and engagement, both academically and socially.

The first step of experience as a first year in the College student is the compulsory orientation week. It integrates academic content and skills, student life, health and wellness in a blended format, with some activities taking place on campuses.

The students are introduced a peer-to-peer student support journey designed to develop a sense of community to ensure that they feel a sense of belonging and connectedness with the College community. The orientation week is also used to equip students with the self-help skills of time management, help-seeking behaviour and goal setting, which provides them with an equal opportunity of succeeding by the end of the academic year, because each experience during the first year, is an opportunity for growth and learning.

College students attending an induction

The marketing team conducted a research on first year student experience and taking on the new college adjustment in meeting a new set of expectations. The students are expected to take more active role in their learning than they had to in high school; therefore, it is of need that in whatever they do they must adjust in the heightened expectations of higher education. During the first weeks, more students have shown the ability and expertise to meet the increasing demands of the college life and being open to change.

The Students interact with others of various cultures, religious beliefs, sexual orientations, ages and physical abilities in a number of different occasions. Some of these situations are socially, others academically related. The students respond differently to the new living and learning environments, meaning they have different emotional responses to their first-year experiences. Some are prepared and can handle the stressors of the College life more readily, while others still struggle with challenging situations.

The College continues to encourage the new students to fully engage in their college experience and be ready to operate with a growth mind-set. By assisting, understanding that they will need to make changes and ask for help in order to mature and adjust academically, culturally, emotionally, intellectually and socially - encouraging them also to be patients with themselves as they cope with these adjustments.

It can take the entire first year for a student to build the skills they need to be successful, and that is perfectly okay.

PEER EDUCATORS IN TRAINING

It is common knowledge that South Africans are living under a serious dilemma of Gender Based Violence (GBV), HIV/AIDS pandemic, teenage pregnancy, single parenting and mental health issues. With these issues affecting students at the College, it was a green light or a motive towards the formulation of peer educators as a mitigation strategy for the problem.

Ms B Pongoti who is a peer educator from Mapulaneng Campus delivered a welcoming speech elaborating on what as peer educators are looking forward to achieve by the end of the training and what they expect from the College' Student Support Services and Higher Health.



The event started on a high note with the theme “developing a strategy and planning against gender based violence”, presented by Mr EL Mathebula, the College’s Academic and Social Support Coordinator.

With Gender Based Violence occurs globally, it encouraged the facilitators to form groups naming them after African countries such as, South Africa, Kenya, Angola, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Senegal.

Ms MS Kubheka a Psychologist from Higher Health elaborated on difficulties that students are going through regarding GBV as well as what is expected from Student Support Services in order to reduce cases of GBV in the College. It was suggested by peer educators that the College should have several awareness campaigns on GBV because students feel unsafe and exposed to danger due to their places of residence being

closer to taverns and clubs leading to the increase of sexual assault cases, femicide and other crimes that are related to GBV.

It was discovered during the discussions that peer educators feel that there should be a Psychologist's station and the introduction of unisex toilets that will accommodate the LGBTQ+ community at campuses. peer educators also acknowledged Higher Health and the College's Student Support Services for being on the forefront in creating a safe and a conducive environment for learning in the College.

Other topics which were discussed during the training were; teenage pregnancy. Where Peer Educators were encouraged to be sources of information regarding prevention, protection and self-discipline.

The training was a great experience for Peer Educators, offering knowledge on how to deal with issues that their peers find difficult to discuss with adults at home or Lecturers at Campuses. The programme has been designed to bring an insight on how significant peer-to-peer engagements are and how they can make students' lives at campus comfortable and enjoyable.



Peer Educators in training

COLLEGE GRADUATE BREAKING BOUNDARIES

Mr Cosatu Nxumalo, a 37 years old family man, motivational speaker, community activist and a successful business man from Utah village, situated in the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality in Mpumalanga. Mr Nxumalo started his journey in 2008 for higher education and training at Ehlanzeni TVET College, Mapulaneng Campus - where he accomplished his National Certificate Vocational in Engineering and Related Design in the year 2010.

Mr Nxumalo was given an opportunity for a work placement experiential learning at HI-Q Hoedspruit. He demonstrated his work abilities using the knowledge, skills and experience he obtained during his time as a student at Ehlanzeni TVET College. "This opportunity provided me with the exposure of being into the real working environment as I was able to relate the theory that I learned at the college into practical. It was a turn of events in my life because while at HI-Q I had worked with so much dedication, and I was then offered a permanent position as a technician" said Mr. Nxumalo.

After a period of 8 months permanently working at HI-Q Mr Nxumalo realised that many cars come from his village to Hoedspruit for tyre services, of which they spend more money traveling a distance for tyre services such as wheel balance and alignment. It was then Mr Nxumalo recognised a need in his community and surrounding areas – he left his job and started his own business called PFC Tyres & Welding in August 2012. The business is offering new tyres, second hand tyres, tyre flower pot, gates, buglers and window frame – with in-house services for puncher repair, wheel balancing, tyre fitment, tyre flower pot and welding.

As a community change-maker Mr. Nxumalo is committed for making his community a better place, with his suitability of skills, for instance, problem solving skill - he is able to always have a viable solutions to issues concerning the youth in his community and the community as a whole. Through his business he was able to provide job opportunity, initiating youth programmes, working with different stakeholders and leaderships.

Today Mr Nxumalo is working as Community Field Guard Coordinator for Field Guide College – evaluating the educational needs of the students and community, customizes the educational program to fit community needs and monitoring the sponsorships. All this he is doing through his leadership skills, innovation and creativity, as well as sustainability.

In 2019 Mr Nxumalo won an award for Best Young Entrepreneur recognised by BBR Local Municipality. Through all his hard work and commitment, Mr Nxumalo was able to expand his business by starting PFC Shisa Nyama through the help of Coca-Cola. He is currently running these two businesses and have hired three young people full time and two part timers. He also offers welding and tyre fitment training to the up and coming youth.

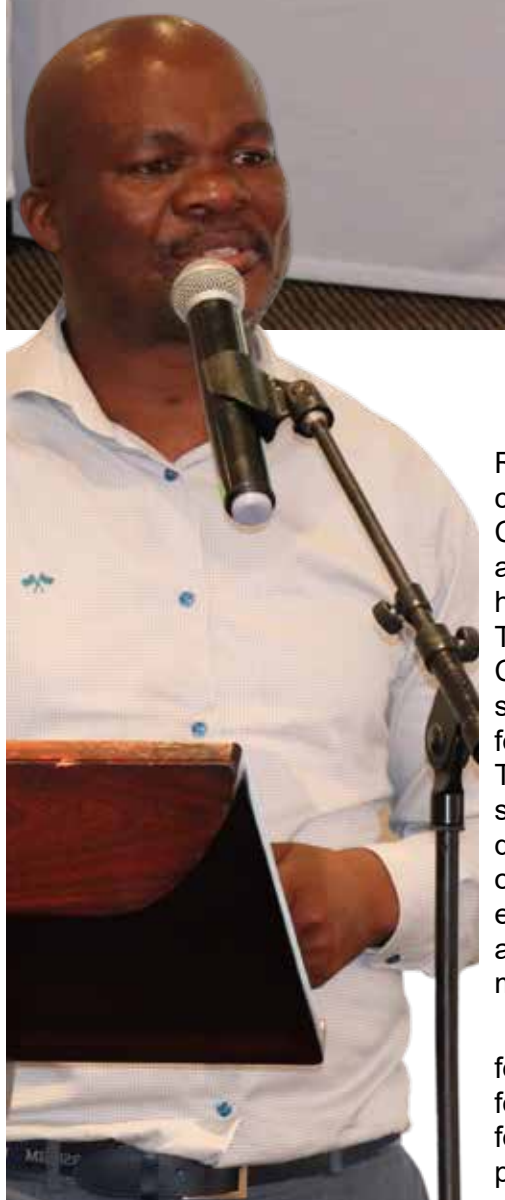


Mr Cosatu Nxumalo, College Graduate



Newly elected SRC attending an induction.

THE COLLEGE WELCOMES THE NEW STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL ON BOARD



The newly elected Student Representative Council members came in their numbers from all Campuses of the College to attend an Induction which was held at Pine Lake, White River. The Student Representative Council is considered to be a statutory structure as provided for in the Higher Education Act. The SRC offers a variety of services to individual students and different student groupings and in offering these services the SRC exercises political, economic and administrative authority in order to manage the activities of student life.

The induction was to set a tone for the new academic year and form a discussion towards strategic for issues affecting the student population and how they can collectively work together to drive

the college vision to fruition. This year's induction proved to be more interactive as many of the students were keen to ask questions after each presentation from the different departments of the College.

Mr. E Mnisi, the Deputy Principal: Academic did the welcoming and opening remarks, he emphasised the importance and objectives of the gathering, acknowledged and congratulated the newly elected students' representative council members, and thanked the co-ordinating team on. He encouraged the SRC leadership to always keep the College vision in mind and use it as a guide to execute their plans with quality, passion, and commitment. "Our values are fundamental, and that should be core to your leadership, they should guide and inform the way

you engage and interact with others. It is critical how we present our institution as it says a lot about us. Whatever you say and how you represent yourself says a lot about our institution” said Mr. Mnisi.

Mr. B Kwayiyo, the campus manager for Mashishing Campus - strongly believe that students should have opportunities to develop their leadership skills, sense of responsibility and connection to community. During his leadership presentation Mr. Kwayiyo emphasised that the induction is a platform which is created for students to find their voice, participate in decision-making and understand their rights and responsibilities as active citizens. It helps students to have a real impact on their learning and school environment and prepares them to participate meaningfully in their community.

The SRC roles and responsibilities presentation was delivered by Mr. E Mathebula, the College’s Academic and Social Support Coordinator, he pointed out that he believes in engagements and interaction towards solving problems “I hope that working together, we will get to appreciate and address issues that are not working well for us, come up with solutions and acknowledge those that are working for us. Let us move away from only identifying problems without considering solutions.” added Mr. Mathebula.

The newly elected students’ representative council president Mr. C Nkosi shared what it means to work at a team and reflection on how they would like to

improve as the currently leadership. Their inauguration focused into how they are going to shape the College in terms of innovation and moving forward, how a space of expanding horizons and new contents to seek open-mindedness in creation

Mr. T Sibiya the outgoing SRC President was excited to hand over the SRC duties to the current leadership. He stated in his farewell speech that the SRC has no room for selfish individuals, who want to advance their materialistic ambitions at the expense of the students. He also emphasised the importance of creating a legacy and leaving a mark as Ehlanzeni TVET College ambassadors.

“Think about the significant effects you would like to leave behind after your term of office. Identify challenges that are of huge concern for students and think about possible solutions. Have something you can always look back on with pride and remember that everything you do now impacts the future. I wish you all the best in your leadership term,” he concluded.

The vote of thanks delivered by the Student Support Services Officer Mr. Lentsoane, expressed his gratitude to all the speakers of the day for the insightful and inspiration information and congratulate the newly elected student representative council and thanked them for their willingness to take on the completion of tasks beyond their comfort zones.



Newly elected SRC in training



Mr SN Mcuni addressing high school learners

EMPOWERING THE YOUTH OF EKULINDENI WITH CAREER GUIDANCE

Ekulindeni Reunion Foundation (ERF), is a registered Non-Profit Organisation helping learners from disadvantaged backgrounds to achieve success not only in their matric studies but also with the most basic of their needs as they traverse through their matric journey. They are also responsible in helping learners with applying to various institutions of higher learning across the country. To date, the organisation have assisted fifty-nine learners.

The foundation held its annual career exhibition on Saturday, 22 April 2023 where two of Ekulindeni high schools Ngilandi and Ekulindeni Senior Secondary were granted the opportunity to learn and to be exposed into various fields of study as well as career paths available to them.

The aim of the career exhibition was to motivate, guide and acknowledge grade 12 learners with the importance of academic excellence. It is a strategic way of helping scholars with early applications to institutions for upcoming academic years. However, most importantly, these events are aimed at strengthen relations between high school and tertiary education institutions.

Great attendants adorned the event, with different institutions of higher learning, the royal house of Ebutsini, the community Council and the schools committee. The programme

director, Mr Mthimkhulu outlined the purpose of the event, introduced the speakers for the day and that mainly inspired and motivated the learners on becoming great leaders and striving to succeed.

Ehlanzeni TVET College's Corporate Communications unit honoured the invitation from ERF to educate on the multiple courses and qualifications available for the learners to pursue their respective careers. The team went as far as to explain the criteria and procedure for NSFAS funding as well shed light on the newly implemented online application process prior to enrolment. A stall was placed whereby a full demonstration were made for the learners as well as to further clarify on what was missed

during the presentation. College updated brochures with full information and empowering tools were handed out to learners.

Mr Ngcamphalala, the Chairperson of ERF, delivered an inspiring message to the matriculates; touching on the importance of the collaboration between the ERF, higher education and the community at large. He also encouraged the learners to work hard and fully commit themselves through their matric year.

"We are all here with the desire to walk with you into finding careers, professions and courses that fit with you, as this platform is a comprehensive tool aimed to orient you to the various options along with the available routes to enter various institutions" stated Mr Ngcamphalala.

He then expressed his gratitude to all the stakeholders and the community for making the day a very insightful and knowledgeable. Mr Ngcamphalala congratulated the learners for attending such an upbringing exhibition program.



THE COLLEGE ENGAGES WITH LOCAL MEDIA HOUSES

The Corporate Communication Unit hosted a media networking session on, 22 March 2023. The primary aim of the session was to engage and develop relationships with local media houses which will result in increased trust. It is believed that where there is trust, people work together more easily and effectively. The media networking session is the College's effort in identifying and building relationships that increase confidence, minimise uncertainty, and speed problem solving and decision-making.

These media house engagements are hosted quarterly because they are arguably the most important ingredients for successful news delivery and yet are often regarded as a fringe activity or one that cannot be outsourced to the College's business-as-usual functions. The College depends on the public to respond to the publications, outputs and benefits that they receive and they can only respond if they are engaged with, which is through the media houses.

This implies that the public can respond positively to what has been

published but the truth is that the College has no formal power of authority and therefore has to rely on media houses.

The media networking stands to outline the purpose, scope, risks and approach of the publication of the College affairs. It also stands as a bridge to update the media stakeholders of the College new achievements, which therefore helps the College to communicate its plan, influence and interest levels. The session is another effort to assist the College meet the needs and prevent communication barriers from disrupting the publication workflow.



Mr DC MAorema and Mr MJ Nzimande addressing the media



EHLANZENI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY GBVF COMPETITION

Gender-based violence and femicide is an ill that has left no sector of society untouched.

Ehlanzeni District Municipality hosted a Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) Competition for institution of higher learning. The event took place at Ehlanzeni Disaster Management Centre, Mbombela. The competition was between the University of Mpumalanga, Tshwane University of Technology and Ehlanzeni TVET College, to evaluate which institution has the best strategy that could assist in the eradication of GBVF within the Ehlanzeni District Municipality.

The purpose of the event was to raise awareness and to spread a clear message of zero tolerance of all forms of violence against women and children. It was also a platform for informing victims of their rights and the support services available to them while providing a forum to develop and share effective strategies to eliminate such violence.

The competition was instrumental in identifying key interventions to address, not just gender-based violence and femicide but the wider challenges students face with regards to safety and security. It was also emphasised that victims should not isolate themselves and that they should openly address



College delegates receiving the prize

their domestic issues and report to police in time to ensure that justice can be served. The institutions of higher learning, University of Mpumalanga, Tshwane University of Technology and Ehlanzeni TVET Colleges participated in a debate, presenting on strategies to be implemented, violence prevention policies and pillars of programmes that are evidence based.

The event proceeded to an awards ceremony made of entertainment, keynote addresses, presentation of the strategies, selection criteria for the winning strategy and prize giving. The winners of the competition were as follows: University of Mpumalanga got first prize, the second prize went to Ehlanzeni TVET College and the 3rd

prize went to Tshwane University of Technology.

The key takeaway from the competition was the in-depth and diverse dissection of the topic.



Attendants during the completion

All those who were involved really dug deeper than just the usual 'scratching the surface' for the sake of talking about GBVF. It prepared the students to be able to lead their lives of dignity and freedom, and to live through the strategic plan they presented as both their shield and armour.



2023 APPLICATION AND REGISTRATIONS ARE ELATED BY DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The college is still a top academic institution, making sure that students are helped to achieve remarkable achievements.

Dr Nick Balkrishen, the DHET Regional Manager for NW&MP Region, was elated during his monitoring and oversight visit to Mashishing Campus where he observed that teaching and learning had already commenced earlier than the set date by the DHET. The campus manager, Mr Bongani Kwayiyo, indicated that teaching and learning actually commenced on the 9th, which was the first day that the academic staff returned to work. Meticulous planning and commitment made this possible.

When Mr Zungu, the Deputy Director-General responsible for TVET was informed, he congratulated the Region, the Principal, Mr Mbuyane, the campus manager and their teams on this exemplary practice. DDG Zungu added that "Indeed, anything is possible if we commit to it and I know that we do have the capacity to plan and action things in the TVET sector".



Ms A Mayosi and Dr P Balkrishen

In preparation of the 2023 academic year – application, registration and in take process, the Corporate Communication team kept on toes in running the annual campaign aimed at promoting the college as an institution of choice and excellence amongst young prospective students from secondary schools.

As part of the campaign activities, the team hosted open-days that provided an inside view on what can be expected when studying at the institution. It was a large exhibition with 40 percent growth in attendance over the previous years. It stood as a strategic way to showcase what the college offers, giving an opportunity to learners, parents and educators to get greater clarity about study options and



Mr Zungu

career choices at this comprehensive college.

As per The Department of Higher Education and training regulatory circular, applications were to be conducted online with a key focus to decrease registration time, create an integrated electronic admission note, and reassign key roles, and centralizing the admitting department,

On date 03 October 2022, the college officially open the online application for 2023 academic year, which ran for a period of six weeks. The applications were accessible through the i-enable via the college's website.

The user friendly registration system is built with a variety of self-service options that lets students to be able to sign up for the courses all by themselves, without running to the office or taking the help of a registrar. The tool handles registration queries, compiles data, and tracks applicant status. New students, transfers, and continuing students leverage the online registration system in different ways.

In consideration of late applicants and prospective students who are yet to receive their grade 12 results, the college grant a three-week extension in all campuses – this time through manual application and registration. Each campus has a registration committee formed by the Students Support Services, the academic staff and SRC who are working hand in hand for registering the prospective student upon arrival and completion of the selection test in multiple modalities including paper forms and computer applications.

Qualifying students were informed of their application out come by messages sent to their mobile numbers



that they provided. The atmosphere on campuses was joyful; everyone seems to be more connected, it feels good to walk around campus and seeing the beautiful excited youth awaits to be part the striking institution.

Welcoming our new students, each campus will host an orientation day to introduce the new students to the academic, in align with activities that will assist them to meet fellow students, find a way around campus and being introduced to the several of services and departments on campus. The schedule of the activities will then allow students to prepare for the 2023 academic year to begin, to have a great kick-off for the 2023 academic year.



Ms VK Sikota and Mr BC Kwayiyo

A NEWLY APPOINTED **CAMPUS MANAGER** FOR NELSPRUIT CAMPUS



Mrs S Nkosi; Nelspruit Campus Manager

It came after a long wait until Nelspruit Campus received a fully appointed Campus Manager when Mrs Sithembile Nkosi was appointed and introduced. Mrs Nkosi was born in Newcastle, KwaZulu Natal in the Sibiya family, with four siblings. She then relocated to Pienaar location in Mpumalanga, after she married Mr Brain Nkosi. She defines herself as a passionate, creative and resourceful woman. She is amongst those women that sees the world through lens of opportunity, agents of change, authentic and practical, always engaging in strategic thinking and innovative.

She started working as an educator for five years, teaching Mathematics and Physical Science in an FET phase. She then joined the TVET sector working at Gert Sibande TVET College, Standerton Campus as a Lecturer in 2012 and transferred to Sibanesetfu Campus in 2015 where she was promoted to an Education Specialist for Mathematics and Mathematics Literacy positions. Mrs Nkosi was then promoted to HOD: Business Studies. In the beginning of 2022 she was appointed as an Acting Manager at Sibanesetfu Campus in Gert Sibande TVET College. In October 2022, she was fully appointed as the Manager for

Nelspruit Campus at Ehlanzeni TVET College.

In terms of improvement, Mrs Nkosi's goals for Nelspruit Campus and the College as a whole includes promoting a positive teaching and learning culture that will be achieved by creating a safe and conducive environment. Mrs Nkosi is also planning to introduce new courses that will integrate with the currently offered courses at Nelspruit Campus with an intention of meeting market demands while producing job creators. She also intends to encourage the full utilisation of technological resources in teaching and learning and marketing while creating activities that will strengthen unity and trust among staff members to improve the quality of results.

She stated that she is not humiliated in asking for assistance where needed and that helps in developing a sense of confidence towards her. Mrs Nkosi takes accountability for her actions and acknowledges her mistakes and she learns from them to find an improved solution. She indicated that she is not intimidated by challenges and that she tackles them from all dimensions by considering all aspects of that particular challenge. Mrs Nkosi finds a way to solve problems by thinking of all of the possible solutions to a problem, even with the ones that seem unachievable. Mrs Nkosi is a goal directed person who divides a challenge into smaller pieces that she can attend to individually instead of trying to address everything at once and that helps her in tracking progress and identifying barriers to her tasks.

"It is imperative that the team of Ehlanzeni TVET College know that there is a community that stands with you. You are powerful and your voice matters. You are going to walk into many rooms in your life where you may be the only one who looks like you or who has had the experiences you have had. But you remember that when you are in those rooms, you are not alone. We are all in that room with you, applauding you on. Cherish your voice and just be proud of you. So you use that voice with your head up."

Mrs Nkosi's words of wisdom to the students and colleagues at Ehlanzeni TVET College.



College delegates after receiving the award

Ehlanzeni TVET College receives top honours in PMR Africa awards

- scooped Golden Arrow Award

The PMR. Africa Awards mark the conclusion of a research process in which organizations are scored based on respondents' impressions, with a heavy emphasis on evaluating and quantifying customer satisfaction and customer service.

Knowing that our communities trust colleges to help people advance their professions is motivating. The college has made great strides over the previous three years, with the Mashishing Campus rising to the top of the country's 257 campuses in terms of performance. Out of 50 public TVET colleges, the college now ranks within the top 20 for performance.

Without the diligent work of students, lecturers, managers, senior managers, and the council, who vigorously play a crucial part in ensuring that the college succeeds, this will not be feasible.





Ehlanzeni TVET College in partnership with ETDP SETA launched the Forth Industrial Revolution Centre on 06 October 2022 at Mlumi Campus Nkomazi, thus the centre has been on its best progress.

THE FORTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

This new revolution encompasses new ideas, new possibilities, new creations, and new inventions, it is about breaking frontiers. The college is taking the lead in facing the reality and existence of the 4IR. The institution is not only in responds to its challenges, but in wholeheartedly embracing its tools, potential and capacity to enhance learning and teaching.

The Forth Industrial Revolution is a fundamental change in the way we live, work and relate to one another. It is a fusion of technologies that is blurring the lines between the physical, digital, and biological spheres. It is characterized by the integration of digital technologies, such as artificial intelligence, robotics, and the internet of things, big data, and other advanced technologies.

The 4IR plays a crucial role in the

college as it modifies the way to bring about teaching and learning in the college. As much as life at present is more digital, the college is here to bring the necessary knowledge and skills required in the college and the community at large to adjust to new technological world.

The important of the 4IR centre in the college is to host most of the technologies that assist in learning about 4IR and preparing people with relevant skills required to survive in the technological changing world. It uses digital tools and technological gadgets to bring about teaching and learning. At this moment in time everyone is connected whether by phones or the internet, hence teaching and learning has also gone digital and it is easy for learners to adjust as they are faced with the same

technologies at home and in communities.

However the institution understands that this new world is going to make new demands – individually as much as collectively as societies. Indeed, in the flood of data and information on which we all now depend, many of these demands are already apparent – from requiring us to adapt to whole new technologies, the need for new skills and approaches, and to ensuring equitable, fair and just access, privacy and dignity.

The college strives to build the right skills and talent to manage the transition of the 4IR and propelling in education. Most skills are available at liberty and students have access to them, pertaining to the community lot of work needs to be done more especially with campaigns to bring about



the awareness and to educate them more so that they do not agitate the revolution but embrace it. Furthermore, the college is introducing coding and robotics in primary schools from foundation phase to senior phase, adding to that as a college we are ready to support the schools in bringing successful transition.

Evolving in the digital age the college's purpose, vision and strategy is to focus on teaching through technology and embracing the 4IR centre as it is advanced engineering - bringing the relevant 4IR skills needed in this digital era while adjusting the speed of technology through education in order to be relevant and make use of the Learning Management System (LMS) platform (E-Learning) to reach out to many learners as possible, using digital tools and having the marketing and communications unit to help in reaching out to communities at large about this digital era we are living in.

With a view to help students, staff and community in coping with the new transition they are mechanisms accustomed within the 4IR centre

and the college. In order to allow a smooth transition and avoid stress a project is introduced gradually (blended online- learning and intimately) so that everyone can understand the process and embrace it rather than rejecting it. There is a customised support system which include individual training, mentoring, or assistance from technology champions available at the college 4IR Centre and still training more who can provide guidance and support to those who may need additional help.

By implementing these mechanisms, the college can support students, staff and the community in coping with the transition from traditional ways of doing things to technological ways, and facilitate a smooth and successful adoption of technology in their daily activities.

Through the centre the college has reevaluate its roles and what it could grow to be in the future. It acknowledges that the educational system and pathway of the future will be better served by alternative, innovative models. And it is this key belief that shapes what to teach, how to teach it. This means continually appraising our curricula and course offerings. It means placing in the hands of each person with whom the college engages the ability not just to understand, but to act on their own imagination of the future.

PROVINCES BATTLE FOR GREATNESS IN ATHLETICS

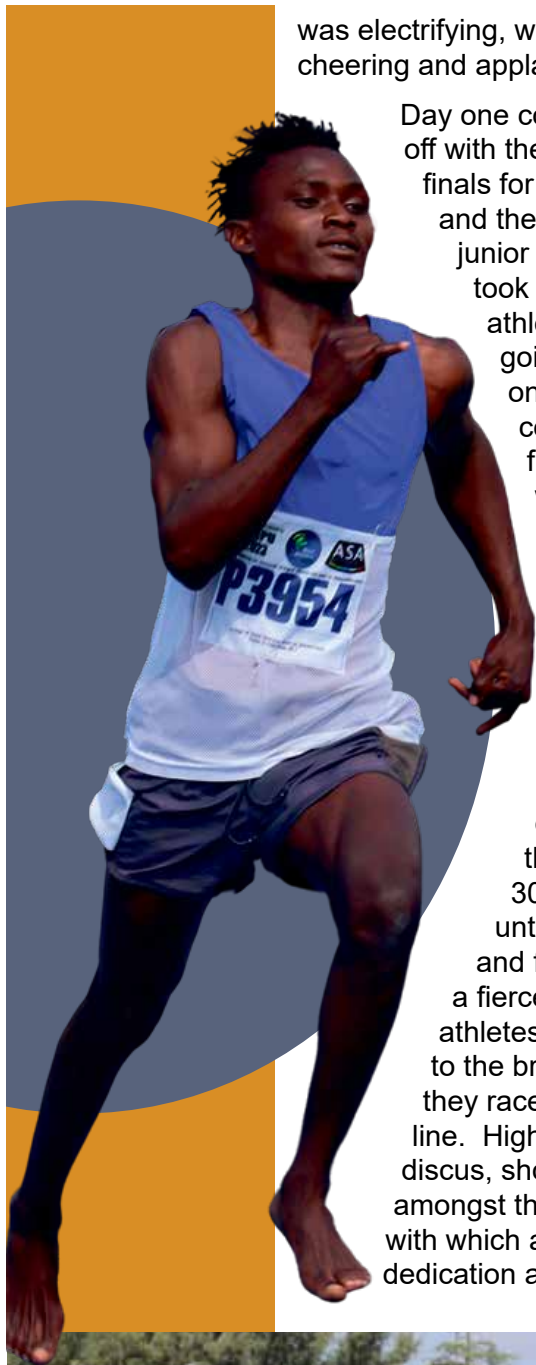
Individually, provinces may have their own strengths, but it is only through unity and collaboration that Mpumalanga created a team of champions. The team from Mpumalanga was formed after Ehlanzeni TVET College was crowned as champions of Mpumalanga in the Provincial CoSACSA athletics intercollege competition that took place in Secunda on 24 -26 March 2023.

Gert Sibande College came second position and Nkangala College came in position three.

The team from Mpumalanga had athletes from the three Colleges where each competitor brought their unique set of skills to the table and together they formed a great team. The team took part on the National COSACSA Athletics completion held at Pietermartzburg, Msunduzi Athletics stadium in

KwaZulu-Natal.

It was a very exhilarating week in Pietermaritzburg and the city was buzzing with excitement as the National athletics event for Colleges was about to begin. South African TVET College's athletes gathered to compete in a three-day event that had promised to be filled with thrilling competitions and impressive performances. As all the teams arrived, the atmosphere



was electrifying, with the sound of cheering and applause filling the air.

Day one competitions kicked off with the 10 000 meter finals for senior women and then the combined junior and senior men took place after where athletes witnessed going head to head on the long distance competition. The first day locked with hurdles races. KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga provinces had a tie on their athletes only obtaining positions one and two.

The focus shifted to the shorter distance races from the day two. The 3000m, 1500m 800m until the 100m heats and finals experienced a fierce competition, with athletes pushing themselves to the brink of exhaustion as they raced towards the finish line. High jump, long jump, discus, shot put and javelin were amongst the other sporting codes with which athletes graced with dedication and precision.



The 4x100m relay was the real highlight on the last day for the crowd. Teams of four athletes took turns sprinting around the track passing the baton to each with precision timing. As the event ended, winning teams were announced. Team Mpumalanga came in position six with five gold, nine silver and fifteen bronze medals. An announcement was made that Mpumalanga will be the hosting province for the National COSACSA athletics competition in 2024.

It has been a truly memorable three days, filled with incredible performances and moments of sheer athleticism and sportsmanship. For the athletes, it was an opportunity to showcase their skills and talent while competing against some of the best in the South African TVET Colleges. The National athletics event was a resounding success and everyone involved had played their part in making it a truly unforgettable experience.





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