

PUPILS EXCITED ABOUT NEW MOBILE SCIENCE LAB

25 February 2013



NEW LAB: Matric pupils and teachers at Lenakeng Technical are joined by NYDA members and Lejweleputswa district's officials in the new mobile lab.

The Grade 12 pupils at Lenakeng Technical School in Welkom want to give the Lejweleputswa district a 100% pass rate to show their appreciation for the donation of the school's first mobile science laboratory.

During the handing-over function at the school on Friday by the national youth development agency (NYDA), the "class of 2013" could not wait to get their hands on all the equipment and start with practical assignments.

The compact metre-long mobile unit consists of bottles, burners, tubes, chemicals and other equipment, neatly arranged in a cabinet under it. The unit has a working space with two unfolding slabs on top.

During the handing over ceremony, Nthuseng Mphahlele, the executive manager for skills and development at the NYDA, told officials of the Lejweleputswa district municipality and the management of the school as well as the pupils, how the mobile science lab project helped to improve teaching and learning of science at schools.

Initiated by the NYDA three years ago, the project is aimed at supporting underprivileged schools with mobile science labs equipped with apparatus to perform physical science experiments.

Following the success of the project, which started three years ago, as well as a growing demand from other schools, the NYDA has engaged in a similar Back to School campaign on a massive scale targeting 100 schools from disadvantaged areas in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape and Free State.

"Often pupils from disadvantaged schools only learn the theory of physical science. Through the provision of the mobile labs the NYDA seeks to ensure that they are exposed to practical experiments to enhance their learning and love for science," Mphahlele said. She said schools which started to use the mobile labs, improved significantly on their matric pass rate.

"I can't wait to use the equipment and take care of it," one pupil said.

[Source: www.thenewage.co.za]