

**SPEECH BY MAYOR OF LEPELLE-NKUMPI MUNICIPALITY HER
WORSHIP COUNCILLOR VERONICA MODILE PHAAHLA AT
THE HANDING OVER CEREMONY OF CALCULATORS TO
MAIMANE, MADITSI AND TLOURWE HIGH SCHOOLS ON 04
MAY 2012.**

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

When this administration lead by President Zuma and Premier Cassel Mathale took office in 2009 it made education an apex priority amongst others. By making education a priority it was clear that education is not the responsibility of government alone. Every sector in a society has a role to play to ensure that South Africa develops and produces the type of citizens required by a modern society, which are enabled to meet the demands of a knowledge economy.

The Motto of our government is “working together we can do more”. This motto is true than ever before as we continue to say no single person can achieve change in society alone. As the Mayor alone, I cannot change the lives of our people in this Municipality in general and I cannot change the teaching environment of this school. It is only through partnership and collaboration like this one with..... that together we can better the lives of South African.

I wish to plead with you as school community to work together as Parents, Education, Leaner’s and non teaching staff for the development of our community. I am part of this community and the schools and I want to see you succeeding in producing the leadership of tomorrow as we begin a journey of building a knowledge economy. Information and Communication Technology (ITCs) are changing our society, men and women, whether rich or poor, young or old, urban or rural, employed or unemployed. Their effects are felt in all sectors, by schools, companies, households, associations, governments and parliaments; in private lives and in all countries. Gone are the days when an African Child in poor and rural communities will experience the usage of

computers after completing their school education or when they start a new job.

Technology has proven transformative through its singular capacity to enable us not just to do familiar things better or more efficiently, but to do familiar things differently, and new things that have never been possible before or even imagined; ICTs are the catalysts that are changing the behaviour and culture of most institutions in society including education institutions.

ICTs are more than modern media. Their ability to facilitate horizontal, creative and democratic communication represents a major qualitative step forward. In the African information society, the intangible elements of knowledge thus assume an importance that cannot be compared with the tools and technique (information technology, internet and telecommunication) which enable dissemination and sharing.

As we handover this calculators, we wish to encourage parents to take part in education of their children and work very closely with educators in moulding our future leaders to become better citizens demanding by modern society. Elections of School Governing Bodies took place recently and as parents i believe you actively took part. As parents you are not only just being elected in SGBs but rather shaping school policies and implementing government policies.

To Leadership of our school, we humble ourselves as we handover these calculators, and enable you to reclaim our future as we change the face of our community through ICTs. Allow me to thank for making sure that this event becomes a success and I wish to urge them to continue supporting poor and rural communities. With your partnership and support we can bridge the digital device.

In conclusion i would like to end with quotation from our Icon and our former President Nelson Mandela “ The true character of a society is revealed in how it treats its children”.

I THANK YOU !!!!!!!

KE A LEBOGA !!!!!!!