

**Media Statement****Date: 19 January 2014****MEC Collen Maine adopts a middle school in Moretele Municipality**

Moretele – MEC for Local Government and Human Settlement Collen Maine has adopted Rantebeng Middle School in Dikepu Village near Makapanstad in Moretele Municipality and has promised to buy the school 30 computers and build the storeroom. MEC Maine made the commitment when he was inspecting the state of readiness of two schools in Moretele Local Municipality for the 2015 school year.

The visit by MEC Maine was to ensure that all schools are ready for teaching and learning during their first days of re-opening with no interruptions. During his visit to both Hendrick Makapan High and Rantebeng Middle School in Dikepu village teaching and learning was continuing as expected with all teachers in attendance.

During MEC Maine's visit to Rantebeng Middle School, the principal Mamikie Bochochele highlighted that many things are in order in the school. "There are enough text books and stationery, school nutrition is functional, there are no vacant position, several school policies are in place and our school governing body is functional. Our major problem is that we do not have computers and our budget does allow us to buy computers. We have looked for sponsors and no entities are coming forth. We really need assistance on that regard. Our children needs computer experience now" said Bochochele.

After confirming the number of computers needed MEC Maine took the decision which left the excitement in the school. "I'm adopting this school and I'll try by all means to assist the school to sort out all the challenges. I'm going to start by delivering 30 computers to the school so that children in a rural area like Dikepu must not be left without knowing how to operate a

computer. We will also build the storeroom for the computers. The school will have to employ security personnel to safeguard the computers” said Maine.

Earlier in the morning MEC Maine visited Hendrick Makapan High School in the same Dikepu village which received 91% matric pass rate last year.

Mary Seoketsa the principal of school wanted the department to assist them with appointing a permanent Physical Science teacher. “Many things are in place in the school but our problem is the physical science teacher who has employed on a temporary contract. When they get permanent positions somewhere they leave the school and it takes us a lot of time before we make a replacement. Getting a permanent teacher will really assist the school” said Seoketsa.

MEC Maine promised to forward all concerns registered to Education Department which will attend to the request.

School visits by MEC Collen Maine is part of the programme of all members of the Bokone Bophirima Provincial legislature to assess state of readiness in some schools within the province in the beginning of every year.

END.

Issued by : NW Dept of Local Government and Human Settlements

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