

**SPEECH BY MEC FOR PUBLIC WORKS, HON MR. HOWARD YAWA,
MPL ON THE OCCASION OF THE HANDOVER OF REABETSWE
SECONDARY SCHOOL, ON TUESDAY 1 AUGUST 2006 AT
IPELEGENG TOWNSHIP NEAR SCHWEITZER-RENEKE**

Programme Directors

Reverend L. Motlhabane

The Mayor of the Mamusa Local Municipality-Honourable
Councillor RR Gincane

Honourable Councillors

Senior Government Officials

Chairpersons and Members of the School Governing Bodies

The School Manager Rre Moabi

Educators

The Professional team and Contractors

Representatives of Business and Community Based Organisations

Representatives of organised educator organisations, i.e. SADTU
and Naptosa

Distinguished Guests

Parents and Members of the Community

Members of the Learner Representative Council

Learners

Comrades and Friends

Apartheid infrastructure planning had denied our people access to quality public infrastructure such as schools, health facilities and recreational facilities. Today we are here to celebrate the delivery of yet another facility and to assert our people's right to quality public infrastructure.

In the past twelve years, the ANC led government has made great strides to improve access to quality public education within limited resources and constraints. This has resulted in accelerated provision of school infrastructure and more equitable distribution of resources.

Today with the delivery of Reabetswe Secondary School, we celebrate the triumph of the human spirit over the claws of apartheid legacy of poverty, deprivation and neglect.

We are here to assert the right of our children to basic and hygienic infrastructure. We are here to affirm that the new age of hope also means accelerated development for the people of Ipelegeng.

The inconvenience that learners and educators from both Ikgomotseng Primary School and Reabetswe Secondary School have suffered as a result of platooning over a thirty months period has come to end.

I wish to commend the people of Ipelegeng for their patience and support. You did not join those who whine at everything and

anything. Your patience and confidence in the ANC government has paid off.

Today you are reaping the fruits of our hard-earned democracy, hardwork, dedication and patience. In many ways than one, today's handover is a pledge redeemed, a promise fulfilled, a dream come true, and indeed a mission accomplished for the learners, educators and the community of Ipelegeng.

In investing in the most fundamental building block of this community's education, Government has spent R7, 8 million for the construction of the First Phase of Reabetswe Senior Secondary School. This phase consisted of 12 classrooms, an administration block, a computer room and 36 toilets. Fifty-six (56) locals and a sub-contractor for steelwork were employed on the project for the construction of the school.

We wish to congratulate the Professional team led by W.P Jacobs and J.C. Nel Quantity Surveyors, Moedi Consulting Engineers and Kitso Technologies. Let me also commend TJ Moche Builders, Koma Electrical contractor, the Community Liaison Officer, Ms Mmatshabi Madito, our own Internal Project Manager, Mrs. Emelda Mati and the Director Building, Mr JJ Tselane for a job well done.

We hope that this school will produce Civil and Structural Engineers, Architects, Quantity Surveyors and Project Managers that the construction industry needs to meet the shortage of

skills for major capital projects on infrastructure and the developmental needs of our country.

I call upon the community to invest its time and efforts in ensuring that this school is free from crime and vandalism, that drugs are not allowed on its premises, that the grounds, furnisher, textbooks and equipment are looked after, that the operation and ethos of the school reflect our constitutional values, that the achievement of its learners continue to improve, that the behaviour of its educators is exemplary, and that the country can share the pride of this community in its school and the education it instills.

It is my honour to hand over keys to the Mayor of Mamusa Local Municipality Honourable Councillor Gincane to officially open the school on behalf of the MEC for Education, Hon Rev. O.J. Tselapedi.

Ke a leboga.

