



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Starting the New School Year**

With the new school year upon us, Knysna Executive Mayor, Georlene Wolmarans wished all learners a prosperous year, appealing to them to value and uphold the importance of education.

Ms. Wolmarans said that if learners remain motivated in the class there can be no doubt that they can and will achieve their goals. "The Matric class of 2015 has set the bar for this year's Matrics. The class of 2015 is a prime example of what hard work and dedication can achieve. The Western Cape Matric class of 2015 achieved the highest pass rate in the country, at 84.7% - an increase of 2.5 percentage points from 2014 and we couldn't be more proud of this achievement".

"Hard work does indeed pay off and I wish all learners the best for the new school year which lies ahead", she continued. "Learners themselves will have to take action to further their education. "You must be prepared to help yourselves. Make the most of the opportunities you have. If you can do that, then one day, you may find yourself in a position to give back to your community and others who may need your help".

Ms. Wolmarans urged teachers to take action and help learners achieve success in all aspects of their schooling careers including academic, sporting, cultural and most importantly life-long success. "We truly value your commitment, perseverance and professionalism. It is your motivation as a teacher and motivation in the classroom that will help to create a year that is bright and full of opportunities", she said.

"To the Matric class in 2016 I wish you success in all future endeavours. Knysna Municipality is so proud of the teachers and parents for their guidance and support throughout the years. The importance of education cannot be over-emphasised and in today's world the role of education has become even more vital. So let's continue to work together to help each other be our best for our community and our country at large!" she concluded.

**ENDS**

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