



BACK TO SCHOOL – WITH DIGNITY



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National Lotteries Campaign

NLC Back to School Campaign

Education is a key component of the legacy of the National Lotteries Commission (NLC), which has worked tirelessly over the last 20 years to ensure that no child is left behind.

It is a key focus in the charities sector, where education is funded to improve the quality of life of communities, to assist disadvantaged or excluded groups, and to provide facilities and services for the underprivileged.

Over the years, we have directed funding towards building and improving education facilities and infrastructure around the country to make sure that learning takes place in

environments that are conducive, thus helping to achieve the aims of the National Development Plan.

The NLC is further committed to undoing the legacy of inequality and poverty, instead building one of hope and excellence in our communities, thus building a South Africa where a child's family circumstances do not determine their destiny. "The children of any nation are its future. A country, a movement, a person that does not value its youth and children does not deserve its future." — *Oliver Reginald Tambo*



NLC commissioner Thabang Charlotte Mampane.

The NLC regulates various lotteries including sports pools, society lotteries, raffles and competitions. The NLC monitors and regulates the running of various lottery competitions, including those organised by non-profit organisations to raise funds and by companies to promote their goods and services.

Nkwambazi Primary School

Bricks and mortar lift spirits at mud school

NLC transforms school to a safe haven

A National Lotteries Commission (NLC) grant of R4.9 million has helped transform Nkwambazi Primary School into a safer and healthier teaching and learning environment.

The NLC sponsored the school to the tune of R300 000 for a multi-purpose sport field in 2016 and contributed R4 600 000 for the construction of additional classrooms, a store room and toilets. The funds were also used to install a solar system for water pumps and to dig a borehole, with the groundwater used to flush the toilets. The school is based in the rural village of KwaNtebe in the cattle farming town of Vryheid, north of KwaZulu-Natal.

The school principal, Thobi-

sile Mafuleka, said the school did not have flushing toilets and a solar panel system because they also don't have electricity but since NLC came to their rescue – things are looking up. They also changed their brown uniform to navy blue to symbolise the new beauty of the school. "We changed it this year, the parents decided to change it to navy blue because the brown was for mud classrooms," she said with a happy face.

Mafuleka said the funds have helped to totally revamp the school environment and she hopes more pupils will appreciate the positive change.

"The NLC transformed the school from being unsafe to be a safe and conducive place for teaching and learning.

"The school is so welcoming and a safe and healthy place for children to be. The children from this rural area are so motivated. They learn in a clean, tiled and well furnished class-



Nkwambazi Primary was once a run-down, dilapidated school with no electricity or flushing toilets.

rooms," she said. She said she hopes that the school will attract more pupils as the community was also impressed with the transformation. However, Mafuleka said the school was still in need of more funds to ensure that children from nearby villages get proper

education like others in the province. She, however, said that since most village schools are always vandalised, the community needs to ensure that the locals protect the school. "I would wish that we get more funds to install electricity and have laptops so that learners from rural areas

are computer literate because they only start using computers and seeing television screens when they go to tertiary institutions. "To the NLC, I would like to thank them and encourage them to continue helping the needy people in rural areas," said Mafuleka.



Today, Nkwambazi is a school the community can be proud of, complete with a bore hole and new classrooms.

Intuthukho-Katleho Secondary School

Enough reason to jump for joy

Lotto improves lives of teachers, pupils

Intuthukho-Katleho Secondary School is grateful to the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) for its more than R3-million sponsorship for school renovations and the construction of sports facilities.

Located in the small town of Vrede in the Free State, the school was built in 1879 as a whites-only school. It was donated to the black community and renamed Intuthukho-Katleho Secondary School in 1992.

Khepe Sekhoetsane, who has been serving as principal for eight years, said they were excited to have been sponsored by the NLC twice in a decade. He said the NLC donated R3 400 000 for renovations last year, which included rebuilding some structures, repainting and decorating the school.

“The roofs were falling, walls cracking and most classrooms did not have doors. This created a very disturbing situation for us because our learners and teachers would freeze in winter,” said Sekhoetsane.

“It also raised safety issues because these buildings were too old; we feared that anything might happen to our learners.”

He continued: “However, because of lotto, we managed to put all concerns behind us and are proud to say that our school looks very beautiful and

“The roofs were falling, walls cracking and no doors in classes

we don't feel like our lives are endangered because of buildings that might fall on us at any given time.

“We have new roofing, we have doors, we have tiling in classrooms and right now we



Tiling on the walls has made the environment at the school more welcoming to pupils, teaching staff and visitors.



The more than R3-million NLC sponsorship has brought joy to pupils and staff at Intuthukho-Katleho Secondary School.

are busy with a few touch-ups. I want people to know that we are very happy at the school.”

It is not first time the school has received funding from the NLC. It previously received a R126 000 donation to build sport facilities that included a tennis court, soccer field and netball field.

Sekhoetsane said this has reduced the dangers linked to marching pupils to sport fields outside the school premises, which some saw as an oppor-

tunity to skip classes while also not participating in sport programmes.

“These sport facilities, built about five years ago with help from the lotto, really brought our dignity back. Regardless of the buildings we had back then, we attracted other schools to come and challenge us at our own school.

“I want to thank lotto a lot because the school looks new and this motivates a child to study better. We hope to continue our



Paint on the walls was peeling off, making the premises look unappealing.



Pupils and teachers at Intuthukho-Katleho now love their renovated school.



This is how the bathrooms looked like before the school got the donation.



The bathrooms of the school now look neat, bright and welcoming.

Evungwini Secondary School

Clean, safe environment lifts spirits at Evungwini

The NLC helps renovate secondary school, making it difficult for criminals to break in

Not so long ago, it seemed as if things were falling apart at Evungwini Secondary School. A break-in which resulted in theft of educational aids, including 50 school tables, made the situation worse early last year.

Acting principal Michael Makhubo said the school also used to be badly affected by extreme weather conditions such as rain and wind.

According to Makhubo, such situations have made it hard for pupils to concentrate on their studies.

He hopes that things have now changed for the better following a multi-million donation by the National Lotteries Commission

(NLC), and looks forward to an improved pass rate.

Makhubo said the school, based in the farming town of Vrede in the Free State, received R3.4-million from the NLC which assisted in putting up an anti-climb fence and a security house to ensure the safety of staff and pupils.

Among others, the multimillion-rand donation also helped in the renovation of the school.

Makhubo said: “The school is fully secured, a new fence has been installed, which in turn improved both learner and staff safety around the perimeter of the school.

The environment is now more conducive to learning and teach-



Contractors are hard at work building a security house and safe parking ports.

ing since all classes have doors, lights and burglar guards to protect all school resources.

“The school is now equipped with safe parking ports for all staff members. Learners and staff can now walk safely on a paved pathway to the school hall during assemblies and school functions.”

The donation also helped create a healthier and neat environment as the restrooms were re-

built and the classes were provided with all the necessary equipment. Classrooms were repainted and new doors and windows were installed.

He said the renovations will make it hard for criminals to break into the premises again.

“I wish the NLC can continue assisting other struggling schools and communities. We are grateful to have been uplifted by the NLC and thankful that

they have supported the winning province in 2019. I would really like to encourage other stakeholders to honour their social responsibilities, through them our 2030 vision as stipulated in the NDP will be possible.”



The lotteries commission's R3.4-million grant was used to renovate the premises.

Ngxwalane Primary School

NLC restores dignity at Ngxwalane



The lotteries commission has erected new, better and safer ablution facilities at Ngxwalane Primary School outside King William's Town in the Eastern Cape.

The eradication of pit toilets remains a hot topic at rural schools.

Dilapidated pit toilets have been labelled a death trap

As the country kicks off the new academic year, pupils at Ngxwalane Primary School in Eastern Cape will no longer be exposed to danger as the school now has better ablution facilities.

Eradication of pit latrines remains a hot topic, especially at rural schools. Ngxwalane primary is one of the schools in a small village outside King William's Town that still expe-

riences infrastructure problems.

However, around winter last year, the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) erected new, better and safer ablution facilities for the pupils.

One of the parents, who is also deputy chair of the school governing body (SGB), Veliswa Mali, described the old pit toilets as a danger to pupils. Mali, whose children had been complaining about the unsafe conditions of the pit latrines, has been an SGB member since 2017.

"These new toilets are much better, safer and perfect for our children. We're very satisfied

The commission values and takes care of the most vulnerable people

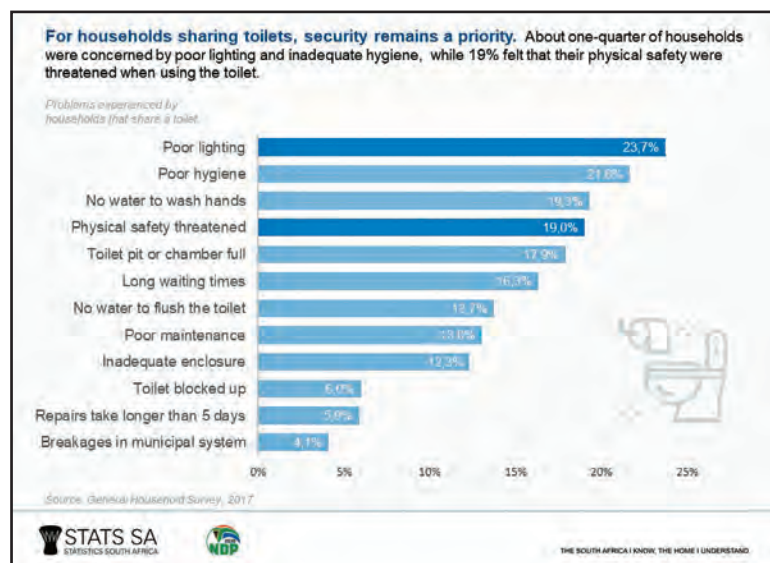
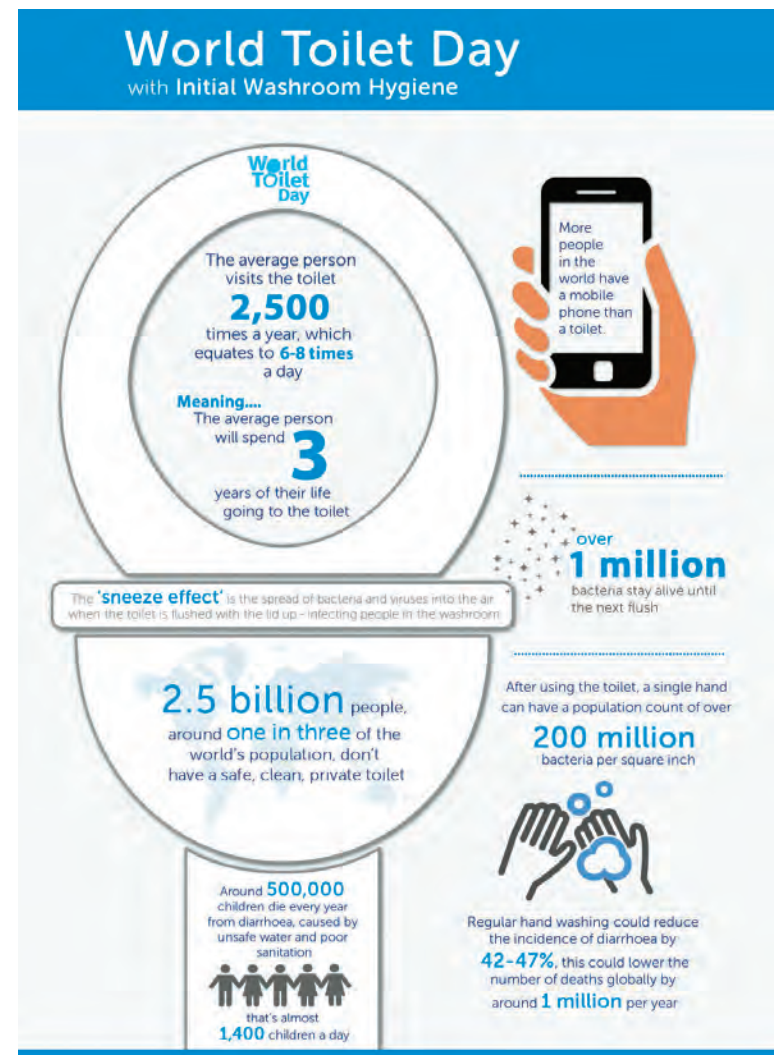
with them. I just want to tell the lottery that we're very thankful for the new toilets, they're beautiful. The kids and parents love them," said Mali.

Another elated parent, Ndumiso Kota, said it was an understatement to label the pit latrines dangerous. He said the old toilets were death traps.

"When the lottery came to our rescue, we were so happy. They came at the right time after we had knocked at various doors and were sent from pillar to post, seeking assistance to eradicate the old pit toilets."

Kota could not understand how some people had ignored the previous appalling situation.

He said he had noticed that his son had become reluctant to use the pit toilets at the school. His son had told him that he was scared of using them and opted to wait for lessons to end in order to relieve himself at home.



"The commission is our dear friend. They value and take care of the vulnerable and forgotten, especially those residing in rural areas.

"We are hoping that they will come and help us again in the future. There's still more that needs to be done at the school," Kota said.

About the NLC

The National Lotteries Commission (NLC) was established in terms of the Lotteries Amendment Act (No 32 of 2013) to regulate the national lottery and other lotteries, includ-

ing society lotteries, to raise funds and promotional competitions. The commission evolved out of the National Lotteries Board. Other responsibilities of the NLC include advising the trade and

industry minister on policy matters relating to the national lottery and other lotteries. The members of the commission are also trustees of the National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund, into which the national lottery

proceeds intended for allocation to good causes are deposited. The NLC does not adjudicate applications for funding or make allocations to organisations. This job is reserved for committees known as distributing

agencies, which are appointed by the minister of trade and industry and other relevant ministers after public nominations. The lotteries commission provides administrative support to the distributing agencies.

Mkapusi J.S High School

'I skipped school when on periods because of unhygienic pit toilets'



Mkapusi JS High School principal Mzubanzi Ncoko is grateful that the commission has eradicated the pit toilets.

School has since improved matric pass rate

Located on the outskirts of Lady Frere in Eastern Cape, Mkapusi JS High School's poor sanitation was a nightmare when female pupils were on their periods.

Avuzwa Mhlaba, a grade 12 pupil, said the new facilities were a great relief for her because she no longer has a reason to miss class.

Mhlaba would skip school when she was menstruating to avoid having to use the dilapidated and unsafe pit toilets.

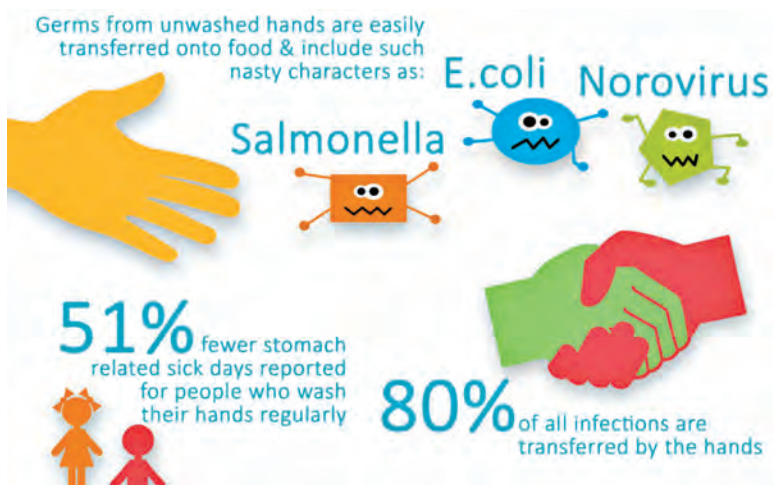
"The toilets were very bad and I wasn't comfortable using them. I'm happy that now there's no danger to my health and I'm able to use better ablation facilities," said the 17-year-old.

Unam Nqwelo, also 17, said: "I used to be scared going to the old toilets, they were so uncomfortable. Now I'm excited and happy that I can have privacy with these new ones."

As a result, Mkapusi high's matric pass rate improved to 70% last year, due in part to better and safer ablation facilities.

As the school gears up for the new academic year, principal Mzubanzi Ncoko is confident they will produce another set of improved matric results in the future. The province achieved a 5.9% improvement in matric pass rate, the best improvement in the country last year.

"There used to be a high number of pupils not coming to school because of the old ablation facilities. They were a high risk to everyone. Since they have



erected the new structure, the attendance of pupils has improved and you can see they're eager to come to school and learn," said Ncoko, who has been a principal at the school for six years.

The school, which accommodates 156 pupils and nine teachers, is named after its village, Mkapusi. The new ablation facilities have three toilets each for girls and boys, respectively.

Before the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) built the new ablation structure, the pupils and teachers used a pit latrine to relieve themselves.

The commission's assistance comes as the Department of Education remains under the spotlight for delaying eradicating pit latrines at vari-

ous schools across the country. "We all used a single pit toilet which wasn't feasible at all. So, most times some pupils would opt to go to nearby bushes next to the school in order to relieve themselves. It wasn't easy at all and studies were negatively affected, you could see that the unbearable situation negatively affected everyone's confidence," said Ncoko.

The principal is grateful that the commission came to their rescue and built better and safe ablation facilities. "They made our lives easier and we appreciate everything that they have done for us. Their contribution will definitely positively affect future generations who will attend this school. We are grateful to the NLC."



The new ablation facilities, made possible by the NLC sponsorship, have three toilets each for boys and girls, respectively.

WORLD TOILET DAY IS NOVEMBER 19



WORLDWIDE MORE PEOPLE HAVE ACCESS TO A MOBILE PHONE THAN A TOILET



2.5 BILLION PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO A CLEAN AND SAFE TOILET

CDC

Bathabile Primary School

Bathabile heaps praise on the NLC

Pupils from poor areas now have sport facilities

For the first time in 40 years, pupils at Bathabile Primary School have access to adequate sport facilities.

The school, in Olievenhoutbosch, Centurion, is home to 1 422 pupils. A colourful school with several mobile structures, it was built in 1980 for poorer communities from surrounding farm areas, Olievenhoutbosch and an informal settlement called Spruit.

Principal Ramashite Kotu said since he took over in 2005, he has witnessed star sportsmen at the school. And although they would win several activities, they lacked proper facilities for practice.

Kotu said: "Most of the times they had to play various sport against other schools without practising."

He thanks the National Lotteries Commission, which donated R300 000 for the construction



Principal Ramashite Kotu says the school has recently introduced tennis as one of their sporting codes. They have partnered with schools in the suburbs to provide training to pupils and teachers.

“Everyone deserves a dignified education and facilities”

of tennis and volleyball courts, as well as a soccer field for future soccer stars. These structures were completed in September last year. The donation also made it possible for the school to buy sports attire worth R50 000 for the pupils. Tennis was only

introduced recently.

"The reason why we see so few black tennis stars in this country is because many of our schools lack the proper grooming facilities. And we may not be skilled as yet in the sport, but we have since partnered with the schools

in the suburbs to provide training to both learners and teachers," said Kotu, adding that his dream is to witness the building of brick classrooms in the future.

"Everyone deserves a dignified education and facilities. We are thankful."

Vhafamadi Secondary School

New era dawns in Vuwani's Ha-Mashau village

Burnt-out school starts new chapter

Chief Thavha Ronald Mashau would often wonder how to improve the dire conditions at Vhafamadi Secondary School.

The residents of Ha-Mashau village in Limpopo found themselves confronted with a situation in which their children had no place to learn after their school was gutted by fire.

Vhafamadi secondary was among several schools burnt down by unknown persons during protests over the demarcation of their area, Vuwani, into the Collins Chabane municipality four years ago.

For more than three years the pupils had to be crammed into mobile classrooms and others studied under trees with no hope that they would ever

have proper classrooms.

"We had old dilapidated classrooms. It was very difficult, our children were learning under the tree. Mobile classrooms helped. In summer it's very hot and in winter it's very cold," said Mashau.

But help finally arrived in the form of a grant by the National Lotteries Commission, which injected R28.3-million to rebuild the schools destroyed in the protest. The burnt-out structure was demolished and made way for new classrooms, a library, administration block, a computer centre and kitchen facilities.

Today, on top of the ashes of the old building stands a modern school with more than eight block toilet facilities.

"We are very grateful. We are pleading for the community to safeguard the legacy that has been made by the lotteries commission and the government," said Mashau.



Many schools in Vuwani, Limpopo, were left in disarray following violent protests over the demarcation of the area.



A 28.3-million grant from the commission has enabled the building of a new school, including an admin block and ablution facilities.

Ngwanabathalerwa Secondary School

Boys and girls finally get their own privacy

Pupils at Ngwanabathalerwa secondary were forced to share a single dilapidated toilet at a rural Limpopo school until the Lotteries Commission stepped in

Girl pupils at Ngwanabathalerwa Secondary School in the village of Matome avoided using the school's toilet because of a lack of privacy.

The dilapidated pit latrine brick structure, built by parents in the 90s, was shared by both boys and girls.

Boys also used an open-air urinal close to the toilet to



The pupils have stopped worrying about being bitten by snakes when using a toilet.

relieve themselves.

Mack Ntene, a teacher at the Limpopo school, said this situation had an adverse impact on learning.

"Girls would sometimes ask to go home during lessons so they could use the toilet. This meant they missed valuable time in the classroom. They were also complaining that some boys were peeping on them while they were in the toilet," said Ntene.

The school is located in a

Girls would ask to go home during lessons so they could use the toilet



The dilapidated pit latrine brick structure had been built by parents in the 1990s and shared by both boys and girls. Boys also used an open-air urinal close to the toilet to relieve themselves.



The Lotteries Commission donated towards the building of a new ablution block of enviro loos.

built thanks to a grant by the National Lotteries Commission.

Ntene said they approached the local traditional authority and the Department of Education in the Zebediela circuit to raise the issue of the toilets.

The department helped the school with an application to the commission.

Despite its remote location, Ngwanabathalerwa prides itself of being among the top producers of matric results in the province. The school registered a 95% pass rate in 2018 and went a step further by scoring a 100% pass rate last year.

"We are just working hard. We are a dedicated team of teachers, young and energetic."

rural area at the foot of an imposing mountain and the thick vegetation around it is a haven for snakes.

"Sometimes the learners would come running to say they

have seen a snake in the toilet. It was really difficult," Ntene said.

But now the pupils no longer have to worry. A brand-new ablution block of enviro loos for both boys and girls has been

Thandukwazi Secondary School

Sports facility contributes to healthy bodies and minds

The matric pass rate has improved

Two years ago, Thandukwazi Secondary School in Zone 6, Sebokeng in the Vaal, was honoured to have a multi-purpose sports centre erected on the school premises, courtesy of the National Lotteries Commission (NLC).

Under the tutelage of principal Samuel Malindi, the school's hundreds of pupils and the neighbouring community, some of whom have children at the school, are benefitting immensely as they also have access to the sports facility.

Malindi said the NLC donated R300 000 in 2018, R250 000 of which was used to build the multi-purpose sports centre and R50 000 to purchase sports equipment and uniform for pupils taking part in different sports teams.

"The donation and the erection of the facilities has had some incredible and positive outcomes for both the school and the community," said Malindi.



The erection of the facilities, after a grant from the commission, has had incredible and positive outcomes for both the school and the community of Sebokeng in the Vaal.

"The courts are used to play a number of sporting codes such as netball, basketball, tennis, volleyball and other outdoor activities including aerobics, in which members of the community participate in.

He said: "Of utmost impor-

Last year our matric pass rate was 99.1% which is remarkable



The courts are used for a number of sporting codes including volleyball, basketball and tennis.

tance though is the increase in the number of achievers in matric since 2018. We had a 100% pass rate in 2018, which I must say I was extremely pleased with because it showed that with a healthy body, one also benefits by having a healthy mind.

"Last year our pass rate was 99,1% which is remarkable. There is a positive outlook and the mood [in the school] has changed for the better since this

facility was built.

"We are especially grateful to the National Lotteries Commission and I want to thank them for the donation and gesture that has been extended to the people of Sebokeng because our kids are now positive.

"They are doing well in their studies because they have something to look forward to after the day's studies - they play sport to stimulate their minds."

Malindi said the sports facility has brought a lot of change to the school, more so to help matriculants achieve and keep community members physically fit.

Reahlahlwa Primary School

Pupils saved from snakes, other insects

Joy and relief at the building of new toilets

Teachers no longer fear for the safety of pupils after the National Lotteries Commission's (NLC's) grant delivered a new toilet block.

Sometimes pupils would wet themselves in class rather than use the old, dilapidated pit toilets located in thick grass.

Such was the dire situation facing pupils and teachers at Reahlahlwa Primary School in Vaalwater, Limpopo.

School girls especially avoided the toilets that were built by the farming community decades ago because of the poor hygiene and risk of being bitten by snakes and other insects lurking around the farm school.

Confronted by this harsh reality, principal Hadifele Jafina Matsetela decided to apply to the NLC for assistance.

One day the teachers and pupils were surprised by the arrival of contractors, who had turned up to prepare for the building of new toilets.

The school now has two neat rows of enviro loos – which are suitable for this rural environment as they do not rely on water to operate.

“We didn't have proper toilets and the learners were not safe. The pit toilets were not safe

“I wish the lottery can extend similar help to other schools like ours**”**



The dilapidated structure – located in thick grass – that the pupils from Reahlahlwa Primary School used for many years to relieve themselves.



With the help from the National Lotteries Commission, the primary school now has two neat rows of enviro loos.

and had already started sinking into the ground. They were surrounded by tall grass and the children feared snakes,” according to the principal.

Reahlahlwa was started by community members in 1974 who built two blocks with their bare hands and material they had sourced themselves.

The school now has 210 pupils from grade R to seven.

“We would like to thank the lotto for building us toilets because they en-

sured that the learners are safe; now we don't have to worry about their safety. I wish they can extend similar help to other similar schools.”

Nchabeleng Secondary School

New ablution block brings hope to rural school

Girls risked being raped everytime they used the bush

The National Lotteries Commission (NLC) has brought hope to a rural school with the building of a new ablution block.

Months ago, Karabo Mofokeng, a grade 12 pupil at Nchabeleng Secondary School in Hwibi village, north-west of Polokwane in Limpopo, had given up all the hope of ever using the school's dilapidated toilets.

One of the reasons Mofokeng, 18, and some of her schoolmates had chosen not to use the two pit latrines was the long queues that would form as a result of pupils waiting to relieve themselves.

The school had only two female toilets which were shared by the hundreds of pupils and teachers. The old infrastruc-



Long queues formed outside the old pit latrines, forcing some pupils to opt for the bush behind the school to relieve themselves.

ture was on the verge of collapse and fear was growing that one day it would give in and swallow up its users.

Some resorted to dashing off to the bush behind the school than waiting in long queues.

However, the situation changed after the NLC accepted the school's application for a donation to construct new toilets.

School principal Tlou Mabotja said he approached the lotteries commission in 2018 to

plead for a donation.

“I wrote an application, and they accepted it. Last year, they started to build toilets and it was a relief for us,” said Mabotja.

“They built three toilets for boys and four for girls. When I look at that, it is far much better than the previous years. When we did not have enough toilets, our children's right to privacy and dignity was taken away.

He continued: “Above all, they were missing classes because they had to go to the bush to relieve themselves.

“We were also concerned that the girls could be raped or attacked while in the bush.”

Mabotja said the school management now hoped the pupils would focus more on their studies.

Mofokeng concurred: “I arrived at this school last year from Free State. There we had proper toilets but the situation here was something else, I



Attendance has improved after the NLC helped build new toilets for boys and girls.

even wanted to go back but my mother persuaded me to stay.

“I decided that I will not use these toilets. I would rather go to the toilet when I got back home.”

Mabotja believes that his pupils' dignity has been restored.

Now the principal hopes they will focus more on their studies without worrying about using the bush as toilets to relieve themselves. – *Mukurukuru Media*