



→ Provincial Winner

Excellence in Secondary School Leadership

Name: John Matiso

School: Manzomthombo Secondary School

District: Metro North Education District

Mr Matiso is integral in inspiring the school community, which involves all stakeholders, to embrace the vision and mission of the school as he embodies the values that drives this vision.

Manzomthombo Secondary School is a no-fee school in Mfuleni with 1700 learners from poverty-stricken households. Despite these challenging circumstances, Mr Matiso has been instrumental in establishing it as a school of excellence. This is evident in the school's excellent pass rate of over 90% since 2014. In 2021, one of the school's learners was awarded a prize for being the top candidate in Quintile 3.

Mr Matiso relies on data-driven instruction to achieve the school's goals. He drives target setting and analyses of results processes to maintain these excellent results. He consistently monitors and supports his staff to ensure that they will achieve their targets.

He has made every effort to equip his learners in preparation for the Fourth Industrial Revolution by introducing Robotics and Coding at his school. The school has a blended learning approach and is a Western Cape Education Department pilot school for this project. Furthermore, the school is also a Google School, which provides further opportunities for collaboration.

He has created and fostered external partnerships with several organisations, such as the University of the Western Cape, South African Medical and Education Foundation, Mellon Educate, Engen Maths, Afrika Tikkun and Petroleum Agency South Africa. These partnerships have enabled Mr Matiso to sustain and build on the existing invaluable infrastructure which further enhances learning and teaching. Because of this support he is able to offer lifelong learning opportunities with the aim to empower his staff.

Mr Matiso is the epitome of a leader who exemplifies servant leadership.