



➤ Provincial Winner

Best Teacher Award

Name: Ms Lizette Schroeder

School: Protea Heights Academy, Brackenfell

District: Metro East Education District

Ms Schroeder is awarded this prize based on her work in Mathematics. From struggling with Mathematics herself during her high school years, she now breaks the fear of misconceptions and the fear of doing Mathematics through fun learning activities. Through her story of hope, she echoes the sentiments of W.B. Yeats, “I spread my dreams under your feet, tread softly because you tread on my dreams”.

As head of the Mathematics subject team at Protea Heights Academy, she raises the bar of teaching, sharing best practices, and mentor colleagues. Through her almost 30 years of dedicated service in Mathematics, she has a wealth of knowledge and experience in the subject’s content and skills. As a subject adviser in two districts (North and East), she developed materials to support vulnerable learners to grasp the content matter in an innovative manner. She conquers the fear of Mathematics with fun activities that resonate with the learner of today by using various online tools such as Kahoots, Geogebra and Google Classroom.

She is continuously evolving and innovating her strategy to get parents and learners involved in the understanding the language of Mathematics. She is immersed in the community by arranging family mathematics evenings, competitions on Pi-Day and she

encourages her learners to participate in Olympiads.

She has been involved with the development of Mathematics at a national level and played an active role with our Higher Education Institutions, namely: Stellenbosch University and LEDIMTALI Maths Project, under the leadership of Prof. C. Julie. In 2022 she was the provincial winner of the category Excellence in Teaching Mathematics FET in the National Teacher Awards. In June 2023 she was invited to be a keynote speaker at the 28th Annual National Congress of the Association for Mathematics Education of South Africa at the University of Cape Town.

She fosters learner relationships by further mentoring learners on virtual platforms. She has a synchronous and asynchronous approach by recording lessons and giving access to learners 24/7. She does not only give support to her learners, but also to parents and teachers.

It is evident from testimonial letters from across the country that her work in teaching Mathematics is replicable and scalable.

Ms Schroeder is preparing her learners for the complexities of an ever-changing world by providing them with the relevant 21st century digital skills and competencies where they will interact with people from many different nationalities.



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