



➤ Provincial Winner

Kader Asmal Lifetime Achievement Award

Name: Ms Siddieke Hassen
School: Capricorn Primary School, Vrygrond
District: Metro South Education District

Ms Siddieke Hassen has 42 years of teaching experience, yet she continues to show great enthusiasm and passion for teaching and championing the needs of the learners.

Ms Hassen is a remarkable principal who goes beyond and above the call of duty, ensuring that she lures sponsors into her school to transform and improve the conditions. The school started from nothing - a plain field which was initially a dumping site and constructed with donation from trustees through the initiatives of the principal.

As a leader/principal, her vision or objective is to create a dynamic school environment where teachers are motivated to work, building and contributing to the ethos and morale of the school. In addition, they are building the self-esteem of the learners to help them transcend their socio-economic circumstances. This includes creating a safe haven for learners with their fundamental needs being taken care of.

Through her involvement with various organisations in the community, she has fostered good relations and collaborations between the school and the community. Moreover, she has spread her wings and partnered with *Partners for Possibility*

which generously sponsors the school. Her connectedness has assisted the school to draw potential donors which played a significant role in helping the school to buy mobile classrooms, establishing a sports ground, computer lab and providing school uniforms for the needy.

Despite the many challenges the school is faced with such as violence, abuse, and devastating fire, it continues to perform well. She had initiated a garden project to ensure sustainability. Even if another pandemic breaks out, the school community will be able to sustain itself. During the pandemic, she ensured that there were measures in place so that teaching and learning were not interrupted and learners with barriers to learning received quality teaching and learning. Moreover, she initiated a "Maths Parent" programme.

Additionally, Ms Hassen is an innovative lifelong learner and has applied a variety of teaching and assessment strategies over the years to cater for individual needs. She is dedicated to quality education and development of learners to become responsible citizens. To sum up, considering the excellent work she has done shows her commitment to doing work beyond her job description.



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