



→ Provincial Winner

Excellence in Secondary School Teaching

Name: Liezel Reynolds
School: Hopefield High School, Hopefield
District: West Coast

Ms Reynolds embodies the very essence of a dedicated educator whose journey reflects a steadfast commitment to her learners and the broader community.

Ms Reynolds's career path is a testament to her passion for teaching and learning, and her dedication to making a difference. After completing her studies in Financial Information Systems and earning her Chartered Accountant qualification, she transitioned to education in pursuit of her greatest wish: to empower others and help them achieve their dreams. Her decision to attain a Post Graduate Certificate in Education in 2016 underscores her deep-seated commitment to the teaching profession.

Drawing from her extensive experience in the corporate world, Ms Reynolds has been instrumental in creating pathways for her learners to excel in Commerce. Through her initiative, she secures funding and partnerships with accounting firms

to enable learners to complete an international SAGE PASTEL training course, thereby opening doors to employment and further educational opportunities. Her efforts exemplify her proactive approach and dedication to fostering the success of her learners beyond the classroom.

Ms Reynolds is not only passionate about empowering learners academically but also instilling in them the values of global citizenship. She integrates 21st-century skills into her teaching methods, seamlessly transitioning from direct instruction to collaborative learning and independent application of knowledge. Her holistic approach ensures that learners not only grasp academic concepts but also develop critical life skills necessary for their future endeavours. Her interconnectedness with her learners and her comprehensive understanding of the subject matter collectively nurtures a sense of shared progress and achievement.

Ms Reynolds's meticulous recordkeeping and personalised approach to learner development further highlight her exemplary teaching practices. She continuously tracks student progress, intervenes promptly when needed, and provides constructive feedback that enhances learners' confidence, self-esteem, and goal-setting abilities. Her ability to reflect on her practice and incorporate learners' feedback ensure that her teaching remains learner-centred and effective.

Beyond academic achievement, Ms Reynolds's impact extends deeply into the community of Hopefield and beyond. She dedicates herself tirelessly to training adults and other learners, securing sponsorships, coaching sports teams, and developing a budgeting tool for the

school's tuckshop. Her commitment to the wellbeing and development of her learners is unparalleled, as acknowledged by her colleague, Morgan Smit, who describes her as a "workhorse, a bar-one on steroids" with a heart of gold. In conclusion, Ms Liezel Reynolds is not just an educator, she is a beacon of inspiration and a catalyst for positive change within her school and community. Ms Reynolds's commitment to educational excellence and her learners' wellbeing exemplifies the highest ideals of teaching and serves as a model for educators nationwide.