

→ Provincial Winner

Excellence in teaching Mathematics (FET)

Name: Dillon Seals
School: Apex High School, Blue Downs,
Eerste River
District: Metro East



Mr Dillon Seals is currently a Mathematics educator at Apex High School in Blue Downs, Eerste River. He is a vibrant and energetic educator who leads the Mathematics department with enthusiasm.

He has a strong passion and love for Mathematics and strives to help learners to see the purpose of Mathematics by showing its relevance in real life applications, especially through topics like Financial Mathematics and Statistics. His learners are taught how to manage their personal finances through exposure to trading on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, as well as the Moneywise Personal Finance Course, through which they receive one-on-one mentoring.

He is highly motivated and empowers his colleagues to become effective Mathematics educators. He performs daily class visits and provides instant feedback, which allows his colleagues to improve on their teaching skills and

subject competence. Furthermore, he regularly attends professional development courses with his subject team and is currently in the process of pursuing a Master's degree.

He uses various strategies, including technological enhancements, to support, challenge and enhance his learners' love for and understanding of Mathematics. He understands the importance of learners taking responsibility for their own learning and gives ample opportunity for them to show that they have done so. He effectively integrates online platforms such as Siyavula and Reflective Learning to motivate his learners not only to complete as many questions as possible, but also to achieve a high level of mastery. The learners that have been most active on these platforms also get recognised and celebrated every week, developing a sense of pride in their work.

Dillon is passionate about using real-life statistics and knowledge of

data analysis to identify issues and correcting these issues with his own learners. Through his years of teaching and analysing these results, he has recognised that Grade 8 learners have substantial gaps in knowledge and understanding when they arrive at high school. To alleviate this issue, he makes contact with the Grade 8 parents and learners of the next year and engages them with Mathematics tests and lessons. This is just one of many examples of how he goes above and beyond what is expected to bring about improvements in Mathematics understanding and achievement at his school.

Outside of the classroom, he is widely recognised as an inspiring teacher. He has been interviewed by Kuier

magazine about his life and career, as well as on Radio Sonder Grense. He has been a Telematics presenter and a Back on Track tutor for the WCED and was also selected to mentor a number of youth leaders at Die Burger Jeugleierskonferensie in December 2023. Furthermore, he coordinates the Men of Purpose group at Apex High School, which is a group that, through mentoring, aims to develop purpose-driven young men.

It is clear that Dillon is passionate about Mathematics education and contributing positively to his community and our country.