

Speech: The Cape Winelands Education District's Transform to Perform Rally held at Hexvallei Secondary on 5 November 2022.

Good Morning, Everybody

I am indeed privileged and honored by the invitation to share this day with you.

And what a beautiful day it is in the most beautiful part of our province – The Hexvallei!

I want to start by acknowledging the presence of you all:

The Deputy Mayor of the Breede Valley

The Acting Director Cape Winelands Education District

The police and safety services

All District Officials

The Community Leaders

The principals of all schools represented here today

and learners of

Hexvallei Primary

Sibabalwe Primary

RabiePrimary

Bonne Esperance Primary

F.J.Conradie Primary

Van Cutsem Secondary

And the Hoerskool Hexvallei

Most significantly are all the parents, staff and learners who are here today...

(call [name of school] **let me hear you!**)

At some point in our lives we will be faced with a choice

A choice that will impact on our life in ways we would never be able to imagine,

That choice will shape our future behaviour,

Our image of who we can be,

And what our contribution to society will be over the years.

By being here today, you have made your choice,

You have put up your hand and said:

Send me! I will take the first step!

In fact, you are shouting it out!

Send me! Let me take the next step!

Your being here today is a testament to your dedicating yourselves to the quest to transform our communities to ones where everyone feels

Valued

Safe

Protected

Included

Respected

Cared for

Where we feel that we are adding value

Where we feel that we belong!

This is what you are declaring today:

This community of schools **will forge a path to adding to the transforming journey,**

We will consider the choices we make,

The behaviours we display,

And the values they represent.

Sometimes we feel that the problems we face are insurmountable

That we do not have enough of this or that to make things change

To make an impact

Sometimes we feel that we don't know where to begin.

You begin by taking the first step

And then taking another

And another

Before you know it

You'll be joined by others who share your journey and will help carry the load with you.

The Department's Transform to Perform strategy is designed to reawaken the societal spirit,

It is there to remind us that we all have a purpose in this world,
that we have a voice
and that we should use it.

We should use it to say loudly and clearly,

We are taking back our society

We have had enough of degradation

Of bullying

Of violence

The Transform to Perform Strategy is based on 3 fundamental pillars:

The teachers – and all officials

The learners – and all communities

And, most critically,

The connection that binds these pillars is

Values

When you put them together it reads:

The teacher values the learner

Or

The learner values the teacher!

The Transform to Perform strategy is a simple one:

It says that

to change society, we need to shift our mindset

we need to move from a way of thinking where we limit the reach of our own possibility

we need to move from a state of Fixed mindset

to a **Growth mindset**

to a mindset able to adapt to change
to a mindset free of the shackles of own limiting beliefs.
For this strategy to work, to have an impact, it needs you,
Each and every one of you.

Today we are all here to make that declaration and commitment
We will be part of the rallying call

Enough!

Let us Transform to Perform!

Let us declare our values to all!

Let us be proud of the contribution we make
And let us start today

It can be a small thing, a smile,
Picking up a piece of paper
Cleaning up a space and turning it into a safe space for children to play.

There are seven schools here:

Think big...

Imagine all the shops, all the churches, every outlet in this community
displaying the same set of values each month

Imagine you put your heads together and focus on a single or a few projects
– your energy can transform and drive that project to success.

I cannot wait to come back and see

What else you have done as a community of schools!

I am proud of the you all.

I know that today will be a wonderful day, that you'll make many new friends
and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Reach out, introduce yourself to someone you don't know,

Start with a smile

Say hello

Say I am part of the transformation squad!

Say I love my country

And I dedicate myself to making it a better place!

Enjoy the day,

and thank you.