

## **NAPTOSA'S PRESS RELEASE ON THE 2019 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE RESULTS**

“Amidst all the doom and gloom facing us daily, there annually is the one ray of sunshine moment when we can all pause and share in the joy and happiness of the cohort of learners who have successfully completed their school careers,” said the President of the National Professional Teachers' Organisation of South Africa (NAPTOSA), Mr Nkosiphendule Ntantala.

In the spirit of the moment, NAPTOSA congratulates each and every learner of the class of 2019 who have achieved this milestone – we know, it did not come without hard work and perseverance. We wish you well on your post school futures. You all have a huge contribution to make to our country.

“To all our teachers, a huge “Thank you”. From laying the foundation for learning to putting the building blocks in place, you are the ones who ultimately bring our children to this point in their lives. Be assured that your dedication, sacrifice and committed service do not go unnoticed and are greatly appreciated” said Mr Ntantala.

NAPTOSA wishes to congratulate the DBE on yet a further improvement in the 2019 results and applauds the achievement of 81.3% pass rate and the resultant increase in Bachelor passes. While it does not remove our continued criticism regarding the vast number of learners falling by the wayside before reaching matric, we do acknowledge the improvement in the results of those who wrote the 2019 matric exams. The decrease in the enrolment in gateway subjects like mathematics and accounting is cause for concern, said Mr Ntantala.

It would be amiss of NAPTOSA not to also commend the National and Provincial education departments, as well as Umalusi, for their management of the 2019

National Senior Certificate examination. That load shedding, angry parents and community protests were unable to disrupt the exams, shows the extent to which the management of the exams have evolved and matured, said Mr Ntantala.

Mr Ntantala urged matriculants who unfortunately did not achieve university exemption not to give up on further education and training, but to enroll in numbers in TVET Colleges and other like institutions, because South Africa is in dire need of employees with technical and vocational skills.

As NAPTOSA, we eagerly await the results of the field trial for the General Education Certificate that is to be concluded by the end of July 2020, hoping that the certificate will not become a mere exit tool, but an entry into further vocational and technical training for those learners who exit the education system before reaching matric, said Mr Ntantala. It would be important for the DBE and DHET to not only actively encourage these learners to pursue further training, but to also provide the necessary resources and infrastructure to accommodate those who wish to do so. Naptosa wishes to encourage urgent progress with developing and promulgation alternatives to the academic model of schooling we currently have.

To those who have been unsuccessful we wish to remind you that there are many opportunities to get a matric qualification said Mr Ntantala. He called on schools, parents and communities to support these learners.

Lastly, to the matrices of 2020, NAPTOSA wishes you well and encourages you to work hard from day one, said Mr Ntantala. Remember the age old saying “Without labour, nothing prospers”.

END OF STATEMENT

**Enquiries: Mr Nkosipendule Ntantala (President) – 072 198 0599**

**Mr Basil Manuel (Executive Director) - 079 508 6228**