



ALFRED DUMA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

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WELCOMING ADDRESS: ALFRED DUMA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY:

THE HONOURABLE MAYOR: CLLR MV MADLALA

ON THE MAYORAL MATRIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

DATED: 25 JANUARY 2017

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PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

DEPUTY MAYOR

CLLR THULI HADEBE

SPEAKER

CLLR THEMBA NGUBANE

CHIEF WHIP

CLLR THEMBA NJAPHA

ALL COUNCILLORS PRESENT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PRINCIPALS AND EDUCATORS

FELLOW LEARNERS

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

ALL PROTOCOL OBSERVED

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

SANIBONANI

It is my great pleasure to share with all of you here the joy and achievements of our outstanding young talents of the Alfred Duma Local Municipality.

The matric excellence awards is an annual event that the former Emnambithi/Ladysmith Municipality used to have and that has now rolled over to the Alfred Duma Local Municipality. Today over 130 students will be receiving registration bursaries. This is an initiative the municipality has instilled in assisting students to get a step into the tertiary institutions. From there on those who can't afford can make use of resources like NSFAS. The former Emnambithi/Ladysmith Municipality has awarded 800 students with registration bursaries in the period between 2012 and 2016.

This is therefore the first ever Mayoral Matric Excellence awards that the Alfred Duma Local Municipality is hosting and also the first roll out of registration bursaries that will be awarded. So each and everyone of us here today is starting a chapter of what will be in the history books of this newly founded municipality.

I think it is very important that we thank the contribution and dedication that is made by the department of education and all the schools in and around this municipality. Because events like these would not be possible if it were not for your assistance you or staff at the youth office. Thank you so much for your support.

This year the awards will recognise the top 50 best performing learners from different schools within the jurisdiction of the Alfred Duma Local Municipality. In so doing we have broadened the scale of recognising students who have not only excelled in their academic pursuits but also developed all-round skills and attained remarkable achievements in the domains they have a strong passion for or are talented at. Among the winners the top ten will be specially recognised as well.

All the learners whose names will be called out today are students who have shown dedication and commitment to their school work, they respected their teachers and respected their parents as well.

Our gratitude goes to the parents, principals and teachers for the undying efforts and support for these children, in grooming them for the future.

Ladies and gentlemen it is only fair that even though we acknowledge these young boys and girls for their hard work, that I also warn them of the harsh realities of the future.

My fellow learners now that you have completed this phase of your life, you are now going to face your future. Your future now means that you have to learn to make decisions on your own. Whether you go and continue with your studies or go and seek employment, the future is in your hands. When I talk about making decisions on your own, I'm referring to informed decisions. You will now have to decide between good and bad friends. You will now have to decide on good and bad choices.

I would like to encourage those who will be studying in the scarce skills to do so with their hometown in mind. That when you have achieved your status as an A grade engineer, come back to Ladysmith and encourage other youngsters who were once like you and motivate them to achieve what you have achieved.

I congratulate all the winners of the Awards on their outstanding achievements. I have no doubt that every one of you will excel in your future roles and contribute to the future well-being of society, our nation and the world at large, but do always bear in mind that the key to success in life is not to get ahead of other people, but to teach others and empower others.

Once again, thank you to everyone who came out to support this event and wishing you all the best for 2017.

NGIYABONGA

CLLR M.V MADLALA

MAYOR ALFRED DUMA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY