

REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

MINISTRY OF BASIC EDUCATION

“delivering the 21st century learner”

MOBE



PG 01 THE DREAMS
ACADEMY TO ADOPT
MORE SCHOOLS



PG 02 CHOBE REGION
HOLDS A SUCCESSFUL
MALL MARKET DAY
CAMPAIGN



PG 03 DEBSWANA
EMPLOYEE DONATES TO
TATI SIDING PRIMARY
SCHOOL



PG 04 BURS DONATES
TO KASANE PRIMARY
SCHOOLS



EDITOR'S NOTE

This edition comes just before this year Easter Holidays. In Botswana like many other nations, will be travelling to near and far places for religious pilgrimages. It is during these holidays that the nation usually experience increase in road accidents. Our relative, friends and fellow workers have lost their lives in the past during this period. Our roads have turned to death traps due to high speed and careless driving influenced by alcohol intoxication.

The Editorial Team takes this moment to appeal to all road users including MoBE employees to be cautious during this coming Easter days. Everyone should aim for a “free road accident” holidays by being extra cautious. On a different note, we take this time to thank His Excellency the President Lieutenant General Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama for leading the country diligently during his tenure and bid him farewell. We say, have a restful retirement.

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THE DREAMS ACADEMY TO ADOPT MORE SCHOOLS



Director of Dreams Academy Mr F. Khali presenting possibilities of expanding PPPs during courtesy call

Article by **K. Leboro**
HQ-Public Relations Officer

The Director of Dreams Academy Mr. Fikile Khali recently paid a courtesy call on the Ministry of Basic Education Permanent Secretary with whom they discussed upcoming projects and partnerships with the Ministry. Dreams Academy has adopted Odima Junior Secondary School and Oodi Primary Schools with the intention of adopting more schools in the Kgatleng District in the near future.

Mr Khali who was born in Botswana and later on relocated to the United Kingdom at an early age to pursue a career in football was immovable while setting up this initiative after his career was cut short due to an injury and it was thereafter that he moved to the United States (US) where he is now based and married. The Academy which was initially

the wife's idea, Kathy Khali, grew from what was a small initiative to just help a select small group of orphans during the 2008 epidemic to its current status. After an extensive research, the academy enrolled a number of children and came up with solutions to fill the gaps which were already identified. The Dreams Academy signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ministry of Basic Education last year in July and the team has thus far sponsored a 14 day workshop for students as well as a trip to the Philippines. Mr Khali further said they are in the process of taking a Form 3 male student who is a Junior Certificate graduate to the UK to finish his education there on a 2 year scholarship in a football academy under the Private Prep School.

He also stated that they have just signed the MoU with North Carolina

Central University which deals mostly with Hospitality Programs and he noted that the University will help Botswana with hospitality issues in reference to the country. Mr Khali said they are in the process of supporting Odima JSS and the Kgatleng District Schools. Mr. Khali further said he intends to tighten and upgrade the MoU so that more children are given enough support until they complete their secondary education.

With the curriculum already in place it brings a share of opportunities for the Academy initiative hence a student from Odima JSS in Kgatleng District was given an opportunity to further her studies at St Paul's, an American School at Shanghai in February last year. She got herself a three-month scholarship and while her grades were far more beyond pleasing, she was then given a four-year scholarship by

the sponsors who were impressed by her performance.

The Permanent Secretary Ms. Grace Muzila could not hide her excitement and said as a ministry they are very pleased with the partnership as it is already yielding results. She said the exposure and training given to the 34 000 staff proves the commitment pledged by Mr. Khali.

When adding to what the PS said, Deputy Permanent Secretary—Policy Development, Research and Evaluation Reforms, Ms Helen Chilisa pointed out that there are great people out there who have a heart for philanthropy and enough money and passion to help disadvantaged communities and one of such people is Mr. Khali.



MoBE DPS Ms H. Chilisa discussing PPP during courtesy call by Mr Khali of Dreams Academy



MoBE Legal Adviser commenting on PPP during courtesy call by Mr Khali of Dreams Academy

CHOBE REGION HOLDS A SUCCESSFUL MALL MARKET DAY CAMPAIGN

10 point agenda

1. Be respectful to all customers at all times
2. Treat complaints as useful feedback
3. Maintain professionalism at all times
4. Provide welcoming environment to customers
5. Maintain zero tolerance to corruption
6. Adhere to service standards that have been set for different services
7. Ensure prompt response to all communication
8. Provide different platforms for engaging our customers
9. Go an extra mile and exercise flexibility in ensuring access to different services
10. Promptly and appropriately deal with lapses in the system



March for Education: Student on a low bed during the mall market in Chobe region

Article by | **K. Molete**
Chobe Region: CLO

Kasane was beautifully coloured by the renowned Ministry of Basic Education (MoBE) brand as MoBE team took the services closer to the people. The Mall Market day which was held on the 12th of March 2018 in Kasane started with a display march from the regional education office to the mall space. All levels, from pre-primary, primary, secondary and OSET were equally represented in the march to showcase the Ministry core mandate.

The day started with a short official opening programme in which the Director, Chobe Regional Operations, Ms Lilian Matshameko outlined that the purpose of the day was to bring services closer to the people. She shared that it is through this mall market day campaign that the ministry will be

able to showcase its services and share the performance of the region with the public. "This day will give us an opportunity as the Ministry to showcase what our students are capable of, it will give us a chance to reach out to stakeholders to promote partnership as a way to uplift regional performance", said the Director. The Director thanked the Ministry of Basic Education for providing quality education and appreciated the representative from MoBE Headquarters for gracing Chobe Region Mall Market Day.

Chobe District Council Chairperson, Honourable Paul Chabaesele who was the guest speaker encouraged the business community and all stakeholders to adopt schools to assist the government in providing quality education. He also emphasised the role of parents in children's education. Their role is key because it assist teachers

and educators to produce well-rounded learners who will in future contribute to the socio economic development of Botswana.

Regional Parents Teachers Association (PTA) Chairperson, Mr Victor Liwena also emphasised the importance of stakeholder partnership and parents in education and called for a stronger collaboration to improve performance. He concluded by sharing that the region was recorded as the most improved in 2017 PSLE results performing at 72.83% ABC as compared to 65.1% ABC in 2016. The village leadership visited the stalls to appreciate the outstanding job done by Ministry of Basic Education in Chobe. Displays included pre-primary, breakthrough to English and Setswana (primary), OSET and practical subjects at secondary level.

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DEBSWANA EMPLOYEE DONATES TO TATI SIDING PRIMARY SCHOOL



Article by **P. Phineas**
Chobe Region: CLO

The Adopt-A-School initiative is indeed a blessing to schools around the country. Individuals and institutions are now seeing the need to give back to the

community by donating to schools in one way or the other. Tati Siding Primary School in the North East Region was not left behind as they received a donation from a former student.

On the 19th March 2018, a former

student of the school, Mr Boitumelo Senyane who is currently an employee of the Debswana Mining Company based in Gaborone donated school uniforms to twenty three (23) learners from his pocket.

In her welcome remarks the School

Head, Ms Charity Enock expressed her gratitude at the turn over by the parents, teachers and other stakeholders. She indicated that it is a sign of stakeholder involvement which is encouraged by the Ministry of Basic Education's principle of Partnership with stakeholders in the learning process.

Handing over the donation, Mr Boitumelo Senyane gave a preview of the journey he traversed as a learner in the late 80's. The alumnus told the gathering that learning was surrounded by many challenges such as lack of resources as sometimes they were taught under trees even during harsh weather conditions. Mr Senyane said despite such dreadful conditions they managed to do well and encouraged learners to always work hard and aim for higher marks.

He further said that all parties involved in the learning process should understand the type of learners presented by the 21st century as he said they are too advanced with modern technology and have high levels of digital literacy. The alumnus concluded by indicating that he donates the items from the bottom of his heart. He said his donation was inspired by his grandmother who raised

him through challenges such as insufficient funds to purchase some school necessities such as school uniform but against all odds he managed to go up the ladder until reaching where he is. "When I started my education in 1989, I was looking forward to school and my grandmother was there to motivate and incidentally she had not gone to any formal education but she wanted to see me successful" said Mr Senyane.

One of the parents who attended the ceremony, Ms Oratile Kamalanga, appreciated the gesture displayed by the Donor and could not hide her excitement as she described Mr Senyane as a messiah who will be remembered by all for the good contribution. Ms Kamalanga said Mr Senyane has touched many lives and his gesture will instill the spirit of cooperation and partnership to other people. Ms Kamalanga encouraged the recipients to look after the uniform and urged parents to make sure the uniform is taken care of as a souvenir that will motivate the recipients to fit well into

the system like their equivalents.

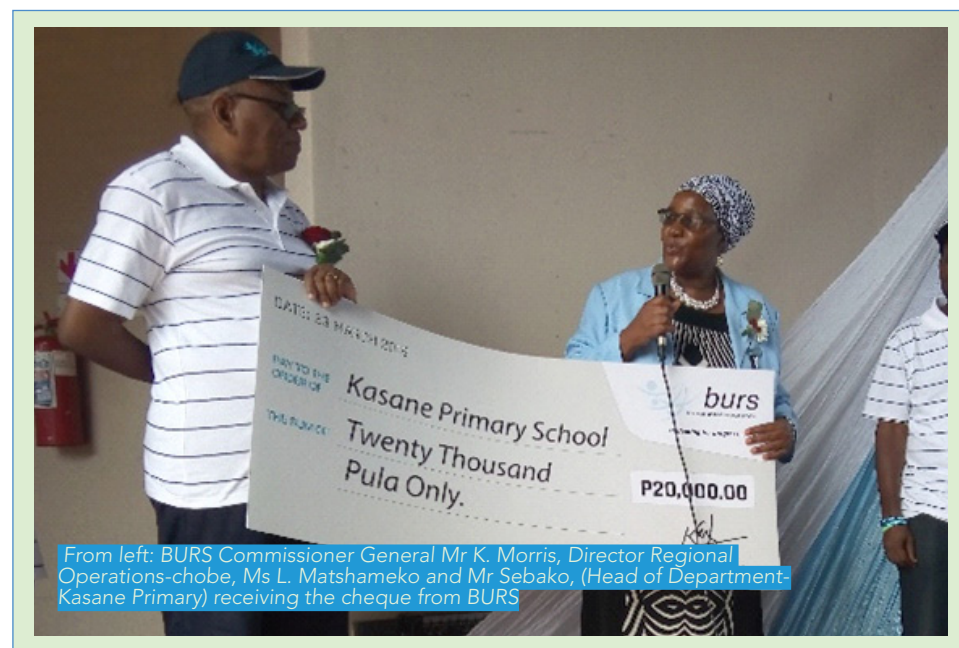
The School Head, Ms Charity Enock presented some monetary tokens of appreciation to the 2017 Standard 7 teachers at the same event. Ms Enock told the gathering that as a school they operate through targets. She had pledged P1500.00 to the standard 7 teachers who would hit the set quality target of 60% in the PSLE results. It was however noted that all the three standard 7 teachers, Mr. Mbatshi Malibamba, Mr. Gofamodimo Ben and Ms Mavis Nkaelang managed to go beyond the set target and they each received P500.00. It was further announced that the same teachers were assisted by the Tirelo Sechaba Participants (TSP) who were also appreciated through certificates from the PTA, P300 contributed by the area Councilor and the School PTA. The Principal Education Officer, Ms Esther Nare also wrote letters of appreciation to the TSPs.

The School Head further recognized the partnership they have with other stakeholders such as the corporate

sector and individuals who were singled out at the same occasion. Delivering her appreciation remarks on behalf of the North East Director, Regional Operations, Ms Gloria Thagane, Principal Adult Education Officer I, thanked the donors and the school for the initiative which she said was in line with the values and the principles of the ministry. Ms. Thagane informed the participants that the activity would remain a



BURS DONATES TO KASANE PRIMARY SCHOOLS



From left: BURS Commissioner General Mr K. Morris, Director Regional Operations-chobe, Ms L. Matshameko and Mr Sebako, (Head of Department Kasane Primary) receiving the cheque from BURS

Article by | **K. Molete**
Chobe Region: CLO

Botswana Unified Revenue Services (BURS) donated P20, 000.00 to Kasane Primary School as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. The donation is part of BURS' s contribution to those in need and it will go a long way in helping to improve the school' s academic

performance. BURS donated the funds during their Wellness Day which was held in Kasane recently. When handing over the cheque, the Commissioner General, Mr Ken Morris highlighted that many requests for support have been coming to his office, but in the 2018 Wellness Day celebration, they found it fit to extend their noble gesture to Kasane Primary School. He clearly noted that they were

informed that the school garden is not functional due to destruction by wild animals and the donation will be geared towards rectifying the situation. He concluded by saying that he is optimistic that their effort will bring change and uplift performance especially in agriculture related subjects in the school.

When receiving the donation from BURS, Director Regional Operations, Ms Lillian Matshameko expressed her pleasure and highlighted that the donation was rightfully placed as agriculture has been among the poorly performed subjects in the region at primary level. She further thanked BURS for investing in education as this will go a long way in shaping the future of the nation.

The cheque was then handed to Mr Sebako who was standing in for the School Head, of Kasane Primary School. He said that the donation will be utilized to good course and he is optimistic that Agriculture will improve in their school.

ETSSP READINESS CHECK

Recently, the Public Relations office joined the Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan (ETSSP) Task force led by Ms Joyce Modie from the Headquarters to Masunga Senior Secondary School on a mission to find out the readiness of teachers to implement the ETSSP plan at senior secondary schools.

ETSSP is a five year strategic plan (2015–2020) put in place by the government of Botswana through the Ministry of Basic Education to transform education in Botswana leading to improved education sector performance.

The teachers appreciated the visit and indicated that they are ready to be taken through the strategic plan. They felt that a lot needs to be done particularly in inducting them on logistical matters, such as what their new roles would be in delivering the transformation. Ms Modie encouraged teachers to also take it upon themselves by finding out more about the plan while they await more inductions on the programme.

Teachers were informed that the programme shall be implemented from 2019 and some subjects such as English, Setswana, Mathematics and Life Skills (Guidance and Counseling) will be the first to roll out the programme. Teachers were further informed that the programme shall also have specialized schools for various subjects. The following schools will be Schools of Excellence for some subjects: Moeng College will specialize in Agriculture, Lethakane Senior Secondary School in Borehole Mechanics and Maun Senior Secondary School will specialize in Tourism. The teachers were also informed about the key priorities of ETSSP such as Out Come Based Education shall usher in different path ways by which students will choose from.

Article by | **P. Phineas**

