

Mayor's farewell address at Pitjaneng Primary school, Leboeng, 22  
September 2011

Programme Director

Members of the Executive Committee

councillors

School Management

School governing body

Representative from the Department of Education

Officials from Drakenburg Circuit

Educators

Learners

Ba difokeng

Distinguished guests

Setshaba ka moka

I am pleased to be here today to bid farewell to all of you in this school. It is an emotional event for me and it is difficult to express my feelings. This school has been an integral part of me for many years and it is not easy for me to part ways in this manner. I have been an educator for many years in this institution I have become accustomed to the tradition and culture of the school.

I have been a loyal servant to the department of Education and I was made to the head master of this school due to the trust and confidence that the department had in me. I had become used to the parents, teachers and learners of this community and our relationship was based on mutual trust, honesty and respect. This community and the school in particular gave me an opportunity to be who I am today. You have been patient with me over the past five years while I was the Ward Councillor of this area. I spent most of the time being engaged in Council activities but you understood the mandate that was given to me by the African National Congress.

I was the Principal and the Ward Councillor at the same time and both responsibilities demanded my commitment at all times. I was able to perform both duties because I could rely on your support and did not complain due to my continuous absence from the school. I have no words to express my feelings and

from the bottom of my heart, I salute all of you for the support you have displayed upon me.

I have been given the responsibility of being the Mayor of Greater Tubatse Municipality by the African National Congress and due to the magnitude of the responsibility I cannot continue to be the Head master of the school. My main responsibility is to see more than 260 villages in Greater Tubatse Municipality getting basic services like water, electricity, housing and road infrastructure. I cannot succeed in my endeavours if you do not support me as before. The Municipality cannot succeed if it does not work with the communities.

Education is one of the 5 key priority areas that government wants to focus on during this term of office. We call upon educators and parents to make sure that our children get the best education they deserve. Our government has rolled out many intervention plans to support both educators and learners to provide good and quality results at the end of the year. Pitjaneng should serve as an example where good minds are produced. Today the community of Leboeng is proud that this particular school has produced a Mayor to lead the mighty Greater Tubatse Municipality which is regarded as the fastest growing in South Africa.

To the educators, I would like to encourage you to continue as ambassadors for change in areas that are perceived as rural. We want you to produce people who are going to play an important role in the South African society in various forms. Our area is known for the rich mineral deposits and we cannot continue to have our people working as unskilled labourers in the Mines. It our duty as educators to make sure that our schools produce engineers, artisans and other professional who must lead the economy. As mentioned before the Department is ready to play a meaningful role in helping our learners to access institutions of higher learning.

To our learners, i would like to say to you that i am a living example of a person who was born and bred in rural area occupying an important position in the society. You can become the person you want to be if you listen to the parents and teachers. There are no short cuts in life and the only thing to make one to succeed is hard work. Your educators are here to guide you and you must at all time respect and listen to them. You are the future and without education you cannot reach your dreams.

To the community of Leboeng thank you for being there for me and my family during sad and good times. I hope that the relationship we have build over the years will continue even in this current responsibility. I am the Mayor because of you and without your guidance and support it is going to be difficult to discharge my responsibilities to more than 500 000 people in Greater Tubatse. This is my home and i belong to this community.

Today i am bidding you farewell to focus on the responsibility of leading the people of Greater Tubatse. I am still part of you and i know that we are still going to work

together in many forums to bring service delivery to our people. I have built a solid friendship with educators and parents and i hope that we will sustain our friendship. To my learners I'm only leaving this school to focus on other responsibilities but you will always remain in my heart and whatever i am going to do will be to the development of the community especially you at the future generation of our country.

The doors of Greater Tubatse Municipality are opened for you to make suggestions and inputs that will help us to reach our vision of building a Platinum City for all. As they ``there is no good in goodbye`` but we meet part and we part to meet.

**Ke a leboga**