

## **INTERNET** ARTICLE

## Three Limpopo learners to fly South African flag high in Sweden

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Three Grade 11 learners from Lebeko High School in Phalaborwa were showered with praises at a ceremony to celebrate their success as the National Champions of South African Youth Water Prize (SAYWP).

These three bright minds, Temogelo Mokgotho, Desmond Mmola and Wayne Nkwane will be jetting off to Sweden to represent South Africa at Stockhom Junior Water Prize during the International World Water Week.

The Department of Water and Sanitation in partnership with Limpopo Department of Education and Lepelle Northern Water Board held a Protea Hotel in Polokwane to give a befitting send off to these teenagers on Tuesday, 25 July 2017.

The trio, who saw off their peers from eight other provinces will lock horns at the international stage and where they will face off with their counter-parts from 30 countries across the globe to separate men from the boys.

Speaking at the send-off ceremony, the Department's Deputy Director-General for Planning and Information, Ms Deborah Mochotlhi encouraged all learners present to take the opportunities presented to them with both hands and build a brighter future for themselves.

"I would like to encourage all the learners who got bursaries here today to work hard and pass their matric exams with flying colours to allow you- entries into universities of your choice. The department has played its part by providing you with these bursaries, and after you have completed your studies we will also be willing to employ you and utilise the skills that we have helped nurture", said Ms Mochotlhi.

Limpopo's MEC for Education, Mr Ishmael Kgetjepe thanked the Department for establishing these initiatives which help to prepare the youth for an exciting and adventurous future

"We must accordingly thank the Department of Water and Sanitation for this empowering project and fully give support to initiatives and programs that give concrete substance to



education, motivate the youth, provide opportunities and ensure youth participation in community development projects",

he said.

He added that technological innovation is sought after by every country and South Africa is no exception in this regard.

"We are delighted that our learners continue to demonstrate in a myriad of ways the talents and commitment that makes Limpopo a unique environment for learning, research and active citizenship. This achievement by our learners in this program gives us some good sense of vibrancy of our academic community. It gives us a good sense of talent in our rural schools, innovation, research and commitment to advance themselves, schools and the communities they come from", concluded MEC Kgetjepe.

The department also took the opportunity to also award winners in other youth in water competitions categories such as the Aqua Enduro and Public Speaking with their bursary certificates to enable them to study water related careers at a South African University of their choice. This guaranteeing them a bright future before they reach tertiary level.

**Malope Matlou**