



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



MEDIA STATEMENT

Laptops for outstanding Sitintile Secondary water and sanitation ambassadors

07 December 2020

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) handed laptops to 3 learners who are the 2019 South African Youth Water Prize (SAYWP) provincial champions. The learners represented Sitintile Secondary School during the 2019 provincial competition and represented Mpumalanga during the National competition that was held in Gauteng.

Bayanda Nzima, who has left Sitintile and is currently at Mdzabu Secondary School received her laptop on 03 December 2020 and Vangile Ngazi and Sandile Mavuso who are still at Sitintile received their laptops on 04 December 2020.

On top of the laptops, the learners won themselves bursaries towards a water and sanitation related field of study and prize money of R1000 each. It is now up to the learners to achieve good results and be accepted at a tertiary institution of their choice.

The SAYWP is one of the Department's programmes aimed at youth development to bridge the skills gap in the water sector. The SAYWP, which is a science and technology based project targets grade 9-11 learners doing Mathematics and Physical Sciences wherein they have to identify water and sanitation related challenge in their schools and communities, do research and develop a project model to address the identified challenge.

Ms Sabo Makgaloa from the 2020 Vision Programme encouraged the learners to study hard and take advantage of the bursaries to empower themselves and to develop themselves and their communities.

One of the learners, Vangile Treasure Ngazi, who wants to enroll towards Chemical Engineering, could not contain her excitement in receiving her prizes.

"We have learnt a lot through this project. We now understand the importance of saving water and the vitality of water preservation, especially in our water scarce country. Our project was mainly based on the purification and preservation of water. We are super grateful to the Department of Water and Sanitation. Words fail us. Thank you", she said.



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The learners would not have achieved much without the commitment of their coordinator who pushed them to their greatness. Mr S Mkhonza, as the coordinator dedicated his time to ensure that the learners come up with a workable project. He thanked the learners for their willingness to participate in a project that was so demanding of their time and commitment. He further thanked the DWS for giving the school the opportunity to participate in such a beneficial programme.

“As the coordinator, I feel proud of the learners and hope that while at tertiary level, they will continue to do research related to the water and sanitation issues and help our communities”, he said.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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