



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Learners receive university bursaries

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Three learners from Mehlokazulu High School have won three comprehensive university bursaries in the water careers courtesy of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).

This follows their sterling performance at the National South African Youth Water Prize (SAYWP) award competition that was held earlier this year in Gauteng. They went to represent KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) at the national competition and received position three (3) through their innovative modified bio-sand filter system project.

On Tuesday 28 November 2016, Nondumiso Mkhize, Siphokuhle Mbhele and Nolwazi Sithole were handed three bursaries, new laptops and a R 6 000 cash prize.

Speaking at the hand-over ceremony, Nathi Zwane of the DWS KZN said the aim of the project is to educate and encourage learners about efficient use of water, protection of water sources, health and hygiene for a healthy life, invasive alien species and water safety. Through this project, the young learners become ambassadors of the Department within their communities.

“As part of our 2020 Vision Programme within the DWS, the young learners will be warranted an opportunity to join the Department after the completion of their studies”, Zwane added.

The Department also provides bursaries annually, through its Learning Academy external bursary scheme, to stem the shortage of skills in the water and sanitation sector. The bursary covers analytic chemistry, aquatic sciences, biochemistry, biological sciences, cartography, civil/electrical/mechanical engineering, environmental law/management/ science, geo-chemistry, geographical information systems, geo-hydrology, geology, hydrology, limnology, microbiology, surveying, water and sanitation, water care, water resource management and water utilisation.

When interviewed all three learners confirmed that they are going to study towards the water fields, an excited Sithole said: “This is a kick start for me, I feel privileged to have been granted this opportunity, I’m looking forward to study towards the water field”.

Mbali Mahaye