

The NECT hosts curriculum training for district officials and curriculum coaches

The National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT) team hosted the first of four centralised training workshops for NECT curriculum coaches and district curriculum specialists in Centurion, Gauteng.

The training involves curriculum specialists in priority subjects from six NECT districts (Bojanala, Bohlabela, Libode, Mt Frere, Vhembe and Waterberg), provincial education specialists from the Eastern Cape, North West, Limpopo and Mpumalanga education departments, as well as Department of Basic Education (DBE) officials from the curriculum and teacher development directorates.

It is hosted as part of the NECT's learning programme, which seeks to enhance curriculum planning and delivery. The training will allow district officials to effectively support and monitor curriculum coverage in schools for improved learner outcomes.

District officials have the responsibility of providing support to schools and teachers on curriculum matters and, without adequate training it becomes a challenge to effectively support teachers.

The objectives of the training are to:

- Develop the facilitation skills of district curriculum advisors and NECT change agents;
- Induct the participants to the content of the term one learning programme for 2016;
- Prepare participants to run effective teacher training sessions on the NECT learning programmes for term one 2016; and
- Establish the school support processes for term one, focusing



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on curriculum coverage, curriculum content, assessment and reflective practice.

"The kind of commitment we see from people in the system, and the positive attitude displayed, especially about starting early into the academic year is highly appreciated by the NECT, as this has a very positive impact on the outcomes of learning and teaching in our schools," says NECT CEO, Godwin Khosa, in his opening remarks of the training workshop, which officially commenced on 18 January and took place over a period of a week.

"We welcome this initiative as a department and we believe that the shared experiences among the participating stakeholders will yield positive results at school level," says Deputy Director General for teacher and professional development in the Department of Basic Education, Themba Kojana.

"The experiences will also be replicated nationally as the subject advisors continue their work with teachers to help them improve their content knowledge and pedagogies, so that

learning outcomes are ultimately improved across the board.

"Essentially the final beneficiaries of the training are teachers who will be prepared to deliver the curriculum to their learners, and to deliver it with content accuracy.

"We anticipate that higher levels of curriculum coverage will be achieved as a result of this strategy. We also envisage that teachers will complete all of the required assessment tasks as defined in the CAPS policy," says Dr Lorraine Marneweck, the learning programmes Technical Advisor.

The NECT, together with the DBE, aims to use this training workshop as a blueprint to determine how programmes can improve quality and delivery of education in the country.

This training forms part of the NECT's strategic effort specifically designed to assist in the improvement of teaching in schools to ensure the completion of the curriculum, improved education outcomes and the delivery of quality education.