



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

KOBWA hands over school shoes and sanitary towels to keep learners at school

25 January 2019

The Komati Basin Water Authority (KOBWA) accompanied by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and Nkomazi Local Municipality donated 200 pairs of school shoes and boxes of sanitary towels to 17 primary schools surrounding the Driekoppies Dam as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility program on 25 January 2019.

KOBWA operates a vibrant Corporate Social Responsibility program that operates in her area of operation. As a water management entity, KOBWA is instrumental in the development of water related projects for non-governmental organisations and schools. This has significantly contributed to the Government's efforts of attaining one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which is improvement of water and sanitation for communities. "This event seeks to show support for needy learners who are at the primary school level by giving them school shoes and sanitary towels. KOBWA is cognisant of the fact that the beneficiaries do not exhaust the list of needy learners. By this gesture, KOBWA hopes to have relieved challenges that are experienced by some learners and in so doing, support their learning experience. Let us all contribute to the development and education of our children by donating shoes and uniform to those needy children", said Mr CX Zwane, the CEO of KOBWA.

In his address, the Executive Mayor of Nkomazi Local Municipality, Cllr JM Mkhathswa thanked KOBWA for the initiative and called on the community to ensure that children are not abused and are always at school getting education. "I really appreciate the efforts of KOBWA in ensuring that our kids have shoes to go to school. This initiative is trying to ensure that no child goes to school without school shoes. Government, through KOBWA is giving to the poor. Education is free and there are social grants to alleviate poverty in our country, so we do not want to see a child working in a farm. KOBWA is not only providing us with water, but is also going an extra mile to support our communities. As a community, let us take care and protect



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our dam and refrain from polluting the dam. These shoes and uniform will motivate the kids to concentrate and d their best at school.

Mr P Ntabeni from DWS stated that the donation will instill confidence in the kids and ensure that they concentrate on their studies and education. “The donation, especially the sanitary towels will ensure that the girl child does not lose critical school days due to the lack of sanitary pads, as research has shown that girls are normally absent from school for approximately four days a month due to the lack of sanitary towels. The sanitary towels will ensure that the girl child has an equal opportunity as the boy to complete her schooling”, he stated. He further handed over to Mr T Mndawe, the Provincial 2020 coordinator who explained the competitions and opportunities in the Department.

Themba Khoza