



## INTERNET ARTICLE

### **Kurhula Secondary is the Provincial water purification champions**

18 March 2019

Kurhula Secondary School from Huntington in Bushbuckridge Local Municipality is the 2019 National Water Month water purification competition champions. Kurhula Secondary beat the other 17 regional winners from the six sub-catchments of the Inkomati-Usuthu water management areas to take the first prize of the Science Schools competition held on 14 March 2019 at the Riverside Mall in Mbombela. Second place went to Rev SA Nkosi Secondary from Fernie in the Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality and the third prize went to Hoyo Hoyo Secondary School in Bushbuckridge.

The competition is meant to raise awareness on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and its role in the socio-economic development of the country. This is also intended to spark interest of learners in the field of science and engineering with specific focus on the water sector. As part of the competition, schools are expected to develop a water purification model to treat 5 liters of raw water up to a drinking water standard. This also educates learners on cost and efforts invested in providing portable drinking water to households.

Mr Patrick Ntabeni from the Department of Water and Sanitation, Mpumalanga Provincial Office highlighted the importance of water quality and appreciated the stakeholders for keeping the awareness competition alive as it educated the learners and the communities of the importance of keeping our water resources pollution free and healthy. He also stressed the importance of water conservation as the dam levels drop as we approach the dry winter season in the Mpumalanga Province and most parts of the country.

Philani Mdluli, one of the members of the winning team from Kurhula Secondary School was so excited for winning the first prize at the school's first attempt at the competition and thanked his educator for the support and encouragement. "I was nervous during the day and I still don't believe it that we are the champions. If you put much effort in whatever you are doing, it will bring success. Try and it will happen. We came third in the regional competition and we learned and rectified our mistakes and we look at the result, we are the champions.





## water & sanitation

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Through this competition, I learnt a lot about water and the processes involved in bringing clean water to our taps. I now value water more than ever before”, he said.

**Themba Khoza**



Department of Water and Sanitation South Africa



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