



# Premier's stars

## KZN office of the Premier's Ma'am Jane has retired

One of the best-known faces in the KZN Provincial Government, Ms. Jane Buthelezi of the Registry section, has retired from civil service.

Many know her for her wide smile, kindness to all co-workers and her ability to talk to anyone, regardless of their rank. She was employed into the civil service in 1988 in what was then known as the Chief Minister's office. "I remember that day as if it was yesterday," she says before recounting in meticulous detail what she wore for her first day at work.

"I went and bought a brand-new pair of shoes for my first day at work, and I wore a red and white outfit," she said with a smile as if reliving that day. Since the dawn of democracy, Ma'am Jane has worked under every Premier in the province, from former Premier Mr. Frank Mdlalose to current incumbent in office, Mr. Sihle Zikalala.

"This is the eighth Premier of the province I'm having the pleasure of serving under, and I have fond memories of all the premier executives whom I have worked for. But one incident stands out the most for me, when I was given an award for good performance as a messenger under former Premier Lionell Mtshali. It was such a big thing for me because it was the first time in my life I received any kind of recognition," she said.

Her expression changes to one of sadness as she recalls some of her former colleagues, including those who have passed on. "There are too many colleagues whom I've worked with who all had a profound impact in my life in various ways.

I have serviced in the provincial administration for 32 years, and it was a pleasure to work with people who are loyal and honest. In our section, we deal with all kinds of correspondence, which requires one to be able to do their work in an honest manner and to keep confidential information," she said.

Her priorities of how she will spend her retirement were very clear: "I need to start with repairing some of the properties in my home that were damaged by storm. Recent storm left a lot of damage in our area. "After that, I will start raising chickens. I need something that will keep me busy you know, I can't just sit and do nothing," she said.



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Mr Sihle Zikalala  
PREMIER OF KWAZULU-NATAL



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**PROVINCIAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

**2021**

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**GROWING KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER**

# KZN PREMIER OFFICIALLY OPENED THE ANTON LEMBEDE MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY AT LA MERCY IN DURBAN



*KwaZulu-Natal Premier Mr Sihle Zikalala supported by Minister E.S Mchunu and The First School President of the Academy on Monday, 15 February 2021 unveiled the Plaque of Anton Lembede Mathematics, Science and Technology Academy (School of Innovation & Leadership)*

The school, named after one of the brightest children and son of KwaZulu-Natal, Anton Muziwakhe Lembede, is a pride of our provincial government and the people of KwaZulu-Natal.

It is a school that will contribute in expanding the frontiers of freedom and development and contribute in positioning our province as the centre and science and innovation.

“We wish to extend our sincere gratitude to our Minister of Public Service and Administration and former Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Honourable Senzo Mchunu, for gracing the official opening of this Academy.

As you have heard, the conceptualisation of the Academy occurred under the leadership of Macingwane. Sithi nje, ukwanda kwaliwa umthakathi Phakade.

“We also wish to congratulate and thank the teachers and school management team that are beginning this journey with the learners at this school. We have faith in you and know that you will make

your mark and make our province truly proud for your selfless and dedicated service. “We thus also wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the first cohort of learners who are starting grade 8 today.

We wish them all the success they need as they begin writing the history of the school.

“We hope that you will all grow to become leaders in science, mathematics, ICTs, technology, and robotics. And we have no doubt that you will, through hard work, surpass your challenges like Anton Lembede did. And for my part, I hope you

remember Lembede's abiding counsel to the youth of our country when he said:

“Once more, thanks to the Lembede family for being with us and we wish to assure you that will continue to honour this hero of our land and we have no doubt that all stakeholder of this Academy will live up to his high standards, discipline, and outstanding leadership qualities,” said Zikalala.

The Anton Lembede Mathematics, Sciences and Technology Academy was built at a cost of R252 million over a period of five years. It has 20 classrooms that can take 600 learners.

About 150 learners are enrolled in grade for the year 2021. Lessons include Computer Applications, Information Technology, Life Skills, Leadership, Innovation, Visual Arts, and we will also be adding Robotics.

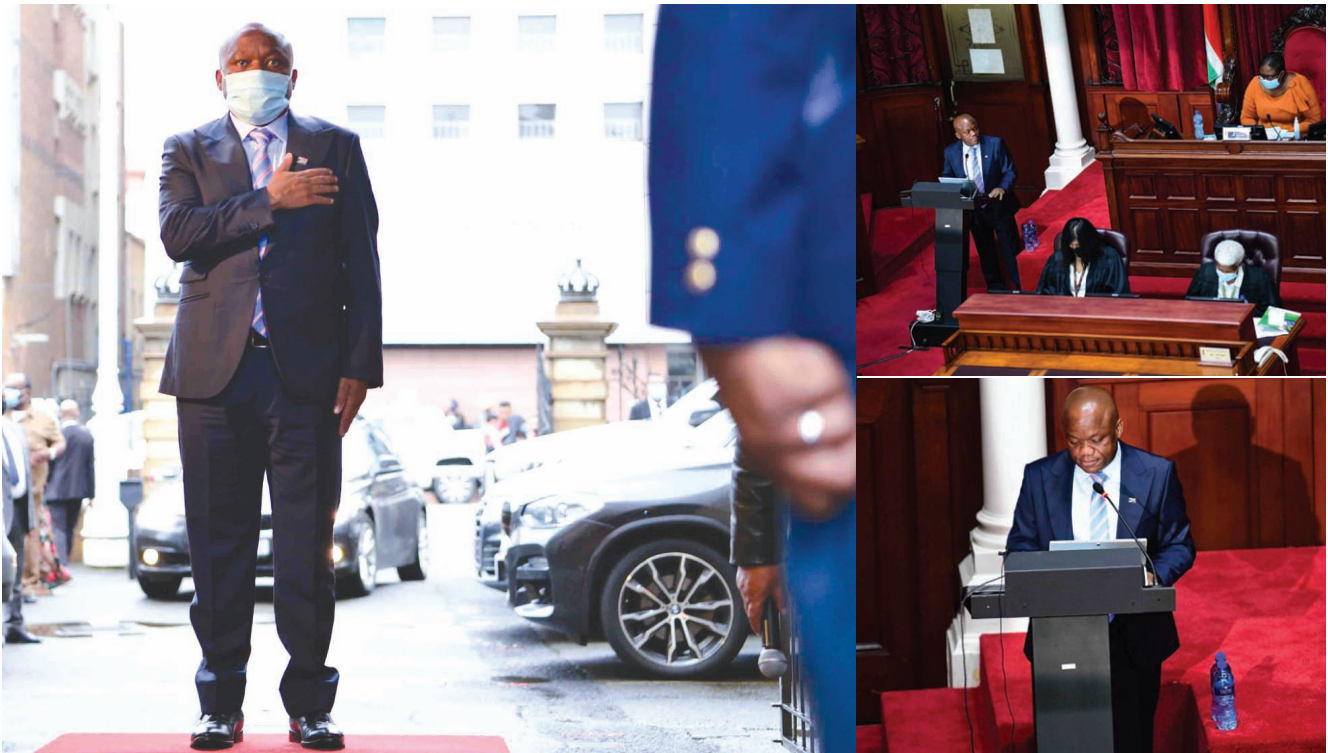
It boasts one specialist classroom, 1 library, 3 computer laboratories, 3 science laboratories, and an administration block.

Fees are R41 000 a year (per student), and the Department of Education offers bursaries to deserving students who cannot afford the fees.

The fees cover tuition, student accommodation, uniform, security, electricity and water.



# Kwazulu-Natal State of the Province Address (SOPA) 2021



KZN Premier Sihle Zikalala delivered the State of the Province Address on Friday, 26 February 2021. Among other things, the Premier focussed on the provincial government's seven key priorities which include: job creation, improving the delivery of services, growing the economy, human settlement, sustainable livelihoods and creating a healthy province that is free of COVID19. To access SOPA speech, please visit [www.kznonline.gov.za](http://www.kznonline.gov.za)

## KZN PREMIER VISITS KWAPATA

KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala led an inspection under the programme operation Siyahlola at KwaPata community in Pietermaritzburg on Sunday, 21 February 2021. This follows community concerns regarding shoddy workmanship in this multimillion-rand project. The project had halted because of dangers posed by faulty wiring.



The Premier was joined by MEC for Public Works and Human Settlement, Peggy Nkonyeni, MEC for Finance, Ravi Pillay and Mayors.

# KWAZULU-NATAL PREMIER SIHLE ZIKALALA HOSTS MULTI-FAITH PROVINCIAL PRAYER DAY IN MAYVILLE, DURBAN, ON 27 FEBRUARY, 2021

Premier of KwaZulu-Natal Sihle Zikalala thanked the frontline workers for leading the charge in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic and for risking their lives to save others. Addressing a multi-faith Provincial Prayer Day held in Durban on Saturday, Premier Zikalala told the audience that everybody regardless of race, religion creed or economic status has been affected by the pandemic.

Premier Zikalala asked the multi-faith gathering to pray for the recovery of those who are sick and affected by the pandemic. In this second wave, the province has seen a decline in numbers from a high of 6000 to a seven-day average of 375.

Premier Zikalala asked the nation to keep His Majesty the King and the royal family in their prayers. He asked the faith-based leaders to pray for peace, unity and successful economic recovery and development in KwaZulu-Natal. Premier Zikalala said: "This is also a time to pray for the leaders of our country so that they lead the people with wisdom and guidance from the Almighty.

Our country needs all its leaders in government, business, labour, and civil society to work together to defeat the pandemic, rebuild the economy, and create employment.

Many of our people are suffering and are without work. Yesterday, in delivering the State of the Province Address, our focus was on defeating the pandemic and accelerating employment creation. We need maximum unity in the country and for all leaders to be united on defeating poverty and joblessness".

The prayer was attended by members of the KwaZulu-Natal Executive Committee, Members of the Provincial Legislature and religious leaders from different faiths.

The purpose of the Provincial Prayer Day was to pray for KwaZulu-Natal and the country to overcome Covid-19 and



to rebuild people's lives. The Speaker of the KZN Legislature, Nontembeko Boyce paid tribute to government officials, various leaders, and Members of the KZN Legislature who lost their lives due to the virus. She declared that there will be a future without the pandemic.

The Chairperson of KwaZulu-Natal Christian Council (KZCC), Bishop Myaka praised Premier Zikalala and his government for being a God-fearing government and for its partnership with the faith-based community.

Bishop Myaka stressed the need for the restoration of hope in the midst of the devastation.

He committed that the church will continue to promote prevention methods, social distancing, washing of hands, wearing of masks, and for a successful vaccine rollout to save lives and livelihoods.

The Provincial Prayer Day was concluded by the lighting of the candle in memory of those who passed away due to Covid-19.



# KZN Premier conducted monitoring and oversight visits at uMkhanyakude schools



KZN Premier Sihle Zikalala in his capacity as the Champion for the District of uMkhanyakude yesterday, 17 February 2021 conducted monitoring and oversight visits to the schools following the opening on the 15th February 2021.

The Premier accompanied by members of the Provincial Legislature, Mayors and Councilors visited Phumlani High School and KwaShukela Primary School in Nondabuya, Jozini. The Premier expressed satisfaction with the progress made since the school opening. Most

schools are complying with safety protocols to protect the teachers and learners against Covid-19 infections.

Premier has commended the teachers, parents and staff for ensuring the smooth opening of the schools.

The Premier expressed concern about the decline in some schools due to the anxiety about Covid-19.

The Premier assured all that the health of our learners and teachers is a priority. Covid-19 must not be allowed to mortgage the future of our children.

Premier Zikalala appreciated the professionalism of many educators related to dress codes and exemplary conduct.

Referring to KwaShukela Primary School, he said: *"if I were a parent here, I would be proud to send my children to this school"*.



**Covid-19 must not be allowed to mortgage the future of our children.**



# Happy Birthday to all Pisces



<https://www.happybirthdaymsg.com>

**Premier's Stars wish all colleagues all Pisces, birthdays filled with love, joy and peace.**

People born between 19 February and 21 March, among other qualities are creative, empathetic and generous.

Famous people under this star sign among others are Minister Tito Mboweni, (Minister of Finance), Mark Fish (Footballer) and Miriam Makeba (Singer and civil rights activist).

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