

Motivation the object at ETC's matric summit

Diketseng Maleke
HERALD REPORTER

MORE than 600 Nelson Mandela Bay pupils from disadvantaged schools attended a motivational summit at the Eastcape Training Centre yesterday, aimed at boosting this year's matric results.

ETC conference co-ordinator Annelize Abdoll said: "The purpose is to inspire matric pupils across the city to perform in the final-year exams."

Guest speakers included Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University vice-chancellor Derrick Swartz, Perci chief executive Odwa Mtati, acting education director Tandeka Mbopa and psychologist Lee-Ann Naidoo.

Mtati said: "Our country has a dire skills shortage. We need skilled people to drive economic growth to the benefit of all our people."

He wanted to emphasise to pupils that you do not have to come from a wealthy background to have a career.

Naidoo encouraged pupils to talk to someone or write down their feelings if they felt anxiety regarding final year exams. "Perseverance is the key. If you persevere, you will succeed," she said.

Abdoll said while not all the schools invited had attended the summit, she felt it was a success.

"I think we need more schools to be involved in initiatives like these."



THE HERALD
12 August 2008

BRIGHT FUTURE
... Matric pupils from Nelson Mandela Bay schools attended a motivational summit at the Eastcape Training Centre, where guest speakers included psychologist Lee-Ann Naidoo (seated at left) and acting education director Tandeka Mbopa (right). Between them is ETC co-ordinator Annelize Abdoll. Picture: BRIAN WITBOOI