



**MRS BUSISIWE MAPHETLE – WIFE TO THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF
POTCHEFSTROOM**

MATRIC FARE WELL FUNCTION – OCTOBER 2006

BANQUETING HALLS

10H00

THURSDAY 05 OCTOBER 2006

Honourable Councillor Meso Dassie – the Acting Executive Mayor of Potchefstroom;

Dr Meshack Mvula – the Acting Regional Director in the Department of Education;

Mr Nemarange;

Ms Seobi;

Educators;

Distinguished guests;

Matriculants;

Maxwell Maltz once said – and I quote:

“People who say that life is not worthwhile are really saying that they themselves have no personal goals which are worthwhile...Get

yourself a goal worth working for. Better still, get yourself a project.... Always have something ahead of you to "look forward to" — to work for and hope for. Close quote.

It is an honour to have been granted an opportunity of talking to you today – and as a teacher and a parent, I wish you all the best for these upcoming examinations. When I grew up – I was constantly reminded that Matric is not a Mattress.

I was always reminded that preparing for Matric examinations especially – is a thorough process that starts as early as January in that specified year. I was discouraged and told to forget it if I have done nothing by September of that year. I believed that – because that was what my beloved teachers told me. Well - it worked out for me – I started my studying as early as January of that year and I passed.

Well I guess that it is not about me anymore. I did my part and I got joy out of it. Ladies and gentlemen – it is a pity that there is no other way around Matric. All of us must follow the same route to get to tertiary level or even follow other areas of interest in life.

It is that time of the year again – when all our Matriculants must work hard at their books and be very scarce on our sidewalks and street corners. The time when our mothers will for the first time – see how their children have matured and could sit for hours on end – eating out of those white pages of their chosen subjects.

Don't spend major time with minor people. If there are people in your life that continually disappoint you, break promises, stomp on your dreams, too judgmental, have different values and don't have your back during difficult times – know that they are not your friends. To have a friend, you must be a friend. Sometimes in life as you grow, your friends will either grow or go. Surround yourself with people who reflect values, goals, interests and lifestyle similar to yours.

Today we say farewell to the matrics. What I want to say to them is:

You are going off to study for your exams, and during the next few weeks you all try to add as much as you can to what you have learnt, and then hope to remember it until after you have written. After that you can in theory forget it.

Your education is what you remember when you have forgotten all that you have learnt. The simplest advice that we can share is that – have a vision in life because it will control your destiny and lifestyle. Remember that people without a vision, their destiny and lifestyle is controlled by others.

We have the opinion that money can buy a desired lifestyle and it cannot. A desired lifestyle is the result of a vision with a burning desire to reach a goal. Achievement is the result of planned action to bust through barriers to make desired events happen. Success, money and resulting lifestyle are rewards only, not goals.

Some of you want to be economists and engineers tomorrow – that is your vision, your goal and nothing prevents you from achieving it.

I agree that certain challenges would rise from time to time, obstructing you to clearly see your intended goal. Challenges like money, HIV/AIDS, and sometimes poor support from your family. Please don't let yourselves, especially young women – to fall in traps of being abused at tertiary level.

In one of the recent studies conducted by the University of Natal – Findings have shown that consumerism and materialism has led to many young South African women embarking on relationships for what researchers call “the three Cs”: cash, clothes and a cellphone. Go out there and study!

Let's realize that happiness lies within all of us. Waste no time and effort searching for peace and contentment and joy in the world outside. Remember that it doesn't matter where you are, or whatever circumstances may be facing you – the music of your life hasn't gone – it's inside you...if you listen to it, then you can play it.

Even the choice of music or taste in life – determines your path. If you listen to songs like Hero by Mariah Carey, R Kelly's the World's greatest – you will definitely feel the sense of achieving in your life.

In order for us to achieve our goals or visions in life – we should always remember the following 7 rules:

1. **Set a major goal, but follow a path.** (When you learn to succeed at mini goals, then you will be motivated to challenge grand goals).
2. **Finish what you start.** (A half finished project is of no use to anyone – don't make quitting a habit. Develop the habit of finishing self-motivated projects).
3. **Socialize with others of similar interest.** (Mutual support is motivating. We will develop the attitudes of our five best friends. If they are losers, we will be a loser. If they are winners, we will be a winner)
4. **Learn how to learn.** (Don't be a parasite on your friends – Man has the ability to learn without instructors. In fact, when we learn the art of self-education we will find, if not create, opportunity to find success beyond our wildest dreams).
5. **Harmonize natural talent with interest that motivates.** (Natural talent creates motivation, motivation creates persistence and

persistence gets the job done) – let the field of economics or engineering be something that you like or otherwise you are in the wrong train.

6. **Increase knowledge of subjects that inspires.**(The more we know about a subject, the more we want to learn about it – a self-propelled upward spiral develops).

7. **Take risk.** Failure and bouncing back are elements of motivation. Failure is a learning tool. No one has ever succeeded at anything worthwhile without a string of failures.

Your attitude, feelings, or moods will infect or effect the actions, moods, and feelings of those around you. If you face the world with a cheerful expectant attitude, the world (and those in it) will know you expect more from it and will perform accordingly.

If you face the world with a negative, down trodden attitude it will know you expect poor action from it and will give you those actions. Remember that the world will reflect your attitude back to you. Your attitude to the world will determine its attitude towards you. So one of the main rules to a successful life is to know that the world is a mirror, often a merciless mirror, of ourselves and the habitual attitude we carry within us.

On behalf of the educators, parents and all guardians who care so much about your progress – we wish you well and know that the Almighty will be with you all.

I thank you.