



NATIONAL NEWS FLASH



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HERITAGE DAY MESSAGE 2020

NAPTOSA's heritage is well established – professionalism, diversity, commitment to quality education and serving with dignity.

This heritage has been handed down from predecessors to our current cohort of members who, in turn, is keeping the torch burning for the following generations of NAPTOSA members. The principles of non-discrimination, independence, commitment to human rights and inclusivity that underpin and support the NAPTOSA heritage are sure to continue guiding NAPTOSA into the future.

When NAPTOSA members look back 50 years or more from now they will point to “the year of the great pandemic of 2020” as a marker of how the traditions and principles of our union shone brighter than ever and they will hail the work done by the class of 2020.

The Latin meaning of heritage is “to leave as an inheritance”. So, what are NAPTOSA members in 2020 leaving as an inheritance for future NAPTOSA generations?

- Showing what true commitment is under the most trying circumstances – e.g. severe loss of teaching time, changing timetables, extreme operating procedures, teaching with face masks/shields, adhering to intense sanitisation regimes, ensuring learner social distancing.
- Showing what it means to serve by not shying away from being frontline workers in the face of a deadly virus.
- Putting the welfare of the children of South Africa, and the national interest, above their own welfare.
- Ensuring that quality education is not compromised, irrespective of adversity faced.

But let us remind ourselves that there can only be a NAPTOSA heritage if there is a NAPTOSA. To ensure that the NAPTOSA heritage is not lost and lasts well into the future it is important that we maintain and grow the membership of our union. It remains the responsibility of each of us.

The leadership of NAPTOSA wishes all members a joyful Heritage Day. Let's celebrate that we are, this year more than ever, playing a significant role in the history of education in South Africa and that as NAPTOSA members we are leaving a lasting legacy of what it is to be a true teacher, office-based educator and education support personnel member.

BASIL MANUEL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR