



# NATIONAL NEWS FLASH



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## Reflections on the 2025 Matric Results and Calls for Sustained Support in Education

Now that most of the hype surrounding the release of the matric results has died down, NAPTOSA once again extends its heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2025 for completing an important milestone in their educational journey.

We further applaud parents and guardians who played a critical role in providing the much-needed support, stability, and encouragement that enabled learners to balance their academic responsibilities with life challenges that they may have faced. Your involvement remains a cornerstone of learner success.

Our sincere appreciation also goes to teachers across the country, who stood firmly at the forefront as guiding lights for these learners. Despite immense pressures and constraints, teachers continued to teach, motivate, mentor, and inspire, often going beyond the call of duty to ensure that no learner was left behind.

NAPTOSA also recognises the important role played by education districts and applaud their improved capacity. While we celebrate the overall performance at provincial and national levels, we emphasise that districts require greater and sustained support, as they are in direct contact with schools, teachers, and learners on the ground. We commend those districts that recorded notable improvements and demonstrated what is possible through effective support and collaboration. We do however caution against the application of undue pressure on schools. Districts must prioritise supporting schools where challenges exist and work collectively towards a shared goal of quality education for all.

To the approximately 12% of learners who did not meet the requirements this time around, we wish to emphasise that this result does not define your worth or your future. We strongly encourage you to explore the Second Chance Matric Programme and other alternative pathways available, including skills development and vocational opportunities. There are multiple routes to success, and this is not the end of the road.

As we turn our attention to the Class of 2026, NAPTOSA wishes all learners and teachers the very best. We urge all stakeholders to begin from day one with focused teaching and learning, consistent effort, and proper planning, to avoid last-minute cramming at the end of the year. The true value of a pass lies not merely in the quantity of marks achieved, but in the quality of learning acquired along the way.

NAPTOSA remains committed to advocating for an education system that prioritises meaningful learning, adequate support structures, and the holistic development of every learner.

**Mr BL Manuel**

**Executive Director**