



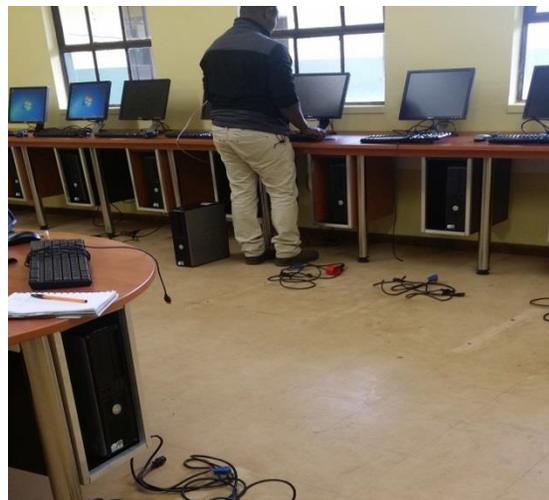
Intel Sponsors Teacher Development in an ICT project with the Department of Telecommunication and Postal Services' and other partners in Harding, KZN

Mbusi High School was the school chosen to be part of the special project in which the Minister of Communication was launching the computer lab for Youth day. The 'Mbusi computer lab launch' launch was done on the 25th of June 2015. The school is in Mbangweni area in KwaZulu Natal Province. As any launch it is always crazy busy the week before the event. School Net, through Intel was contracted to do professional development of teachers in preparation for the launch with the Honorable Minister, S Cwele and the training was done by Mr. Ngcobo.



The School Net trainer arrived only to find that the lab was not ready for use and hence had to reschedule training for after the launch. The trainer, Mr. Senzo Ngcobo, then used this time to talk through expectations with teachers and the principal and made observations of the setup of the school for the launch.

The technician, Fhedzi, from CSICTSA started with installations to complete the computer lab in time for the launch. Vodacom SA, also a partner in this initiative was designated to provide connectivity and technicians were on site installing satellite connectivity and had to get creative to boost signal in an area where 3G is not possible.



The trainer then workshopped particular activities with a group of interested teachers to showcase how ICTs can enhance and engage learning in the classroom. Mr. Hadebe, a Life orientation teacher prepared a lesson on Career choices to help learners with ideas for how to make subject choices.

LAUNCH DAY arrives.....

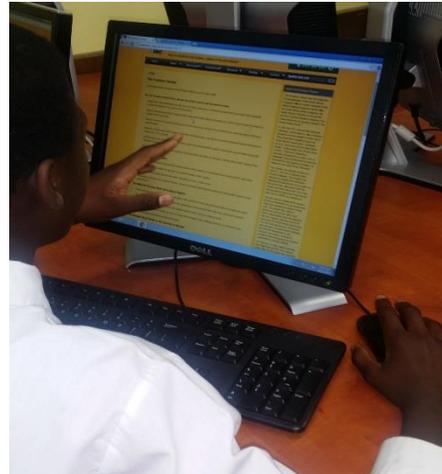
A number of dignitaries were in attendance and this included employees of the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services', community members and traditional leaders. The Honorable Minister, arrived on time (he is noted for this ☺) and held a meeting with the community leaders to inform them about the technology provided through this initiative and that it would be seen as a means to provide the community with access to resources so that they were not held back from progress in the global world. The Minister further provided words of encouragement to learners about the importance of education in elevating oneself from their circumstance. He begged learners to grab the opportunities that are provided and stay motivated for positive change, free of drugs and early teenage pregnancy and other social ills that prevent their progress.



The Minister then moved on to the unveiling and officially launched the initiative.



The Minister, was treated to learners' showcasing their skills in using the Internet to find meaningful information. He interacted with the learners and asked the learners to search a number of sites using Google and asked them to start with the Freedom Charter. The Minister asked one of the learners to read and this broke into all learners reading and this aptly commemorated the 60th anniversary of the Charter where learners were able to articulate meaning of the Charter.



Well done to CS ICTSA who donated the lab. Well done to Intel who constantly come to the rescue with the sponsorship of Teacher professional development. The Minister, the community, the school principal, her staff and the learners were all immensely impressed and jubilant.



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