

Report on Bouquet of Training in Randfontein, Bloemfontein & East London Clusters

Sponsored by Microsoft

October – December 2007

One of the objectives of for 2007 was to provide the full range of Partners in Learning courses to clusters of schools. In keeping with this objective, schools in Randfontein (Gauteng), Bloemfontein (Free State) and East London (Eastern Cape) were selected to receive a range of courses including:

- ICT Leadership for Education Managers
- ICT Skills for Teachers
- Help Desk (for Randfontein - East London and Bloemfontein have already received this out the HelpDesk in 3 Clusters budget)
- Peer Coaching

The following criteria was used in the selection of the schools to receive the training

- Provincial or district officials would possibly pay for other schools in the area to receive similar training to the schools sponsored by Microsoft
- Trainers for all courses were available in the area
- Schools had already received some Partners in Learning training through other initiatives



Training took place as follows:

	Name of School	ICT Skills for Teachers	Help Desk	ICT Leadership for Education Managers	Peer Coaching
Randfontein, Gauteng	Bulelani Primary School	Not ready	3-7 Dec 07	30-31 October 2007	Insufficient schools were interested to make up a cluster. Some schools absorbed into Johannesburg cluster.
	Matlapaneng Primary School	3-7 December 07			
	Dr Yusuf Dadoo Primary				
	Randfontein High School				
	FJ Wells Primary School				
	Phahama Secondary School	22-23 Mar 05 & 08-09 May 05			
	Mosupatsela High School	3-7 December 07			

Bloemfontein, Free State	Eunice	5,6,7,12 Nov 07	Completed as part of Help Desk in Three Clusters	13-14 Nov 07	A series of 8 workshops took place in 2008.
	Kaelang	23-24 Nov 07 & 11-12 Jan 08			
	Lereko Sec	July-Aug 05			
	St Bernard's	May-Jun 06			
	Tsoseletso Sec	11-12 Jan 08 & 18-19 Jan 08			
	Bovaal Agricultural	3-7 Dec 07	n/a		
	Ipopeng Sec	9-10 Oct 07 & 16-17 Nov 07	n/a		
East London, Eastern Cape CaCape	Qhasana	7-14 Nov 07	Completed as part of Help Desk in Three Clusters project	17-18 Nov 07	A series of 8 workshops took place in 2008.
	Sandiswe	July 05			
	Sinikiwe	7-11 Jan 07			
	Umtiza	3-7 Dec 07			
	Vukuhambe	7-11 Jan 07			
	Wesleyville	7-11 Jan 07	Not available		

All of this training had initially been scheduled to be completed by the end of December 2007. However due to this particular period being very hectic for schools such as teachers finishing off their school marking, completing schedules of work for next year, matric marking and not least of which teachers are anticipating the holidays, we had to reschedule some of the training to early January 2008.

The full benefits of offering clusters of schools a range of training can only be assessed once all the training is complete, but already SchoolNet has been able to build up a good relationship with the schools and districts involved. In fact the Randfontein district would now like to offer the same training to other schools in the district that did not benefit from this project.

The participants also seem to be enjoying the courses, as is illustrated by the quotations below:

On ICT skills training:

"This was one of the best presentations I have attended. I hope this filters down to all other educators as it is so helpful"

"Level of training (is) highly rated. Please arrange for more training"

"The course was interesting and enlightening. More time is needed in order to enforce the knowledge I have gained"

"This must be incorporated in the curriculum for completion of teaching qualifications..."





On ICT Leadership training:

"This should be spread to all managers in the rural areas. Refresher workshops quarterly"

"I am motivated and I want to empower other staff members as soon as 2008"

"The course was an eye opener, I hope many courses and workshops of this nature be organised in the future."

"The course was very fruitful to me and I feel improved as far as my computer skills and understanding is concerned."

On Help Desk:

"The training was professionally conducted using as much aids (computers) as possible. The trainees were experts in their fields and knew the subject matter very well. I consider myself not only computer literate but also technically literate."

"The course was relevant to problems we encountered in our school. We acquired technical skills, we also gained insight and understanding about the hardware of computers."

"The course was interesting because we dealt with theory coupled with practical. That made it easy."

"The course was outstandingly magnificent. It was my first technical course training and it proved to be useful beyond measures."



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