



# **Report on ISPA Sponsored Intel Getting Started Training in Mankweng, Limpopo Province**

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## **1. Background**

In the 2010-2011 financial year, the Internet Service Provider Association (ISPA) through the Teacher Training Working Group ran Intel training courses for Potchefstroom and Polokwane for teachers who had previously completed the basic and advanced training provided by Avuxeni, a Uniforum partner. The course that was offered, and sponsored by Intel, was the Intel® Teach Elements: Project Based Approaches (PBA) course. This course is designed to introduce teachers to project based teaching and learning and how best to integrate technology into the classroom.

As a result of this training being a success, the ISPA Teacher Training Working Group agreed to sponsor the Intel Getting Started and Project Based Approaches courses to teachers from a cluster of schools in the Mankweng area within the Limpopo Province. The first of these courses, Intel Getting Started, took place from 1 – 4 April 2012 is reported on below.

## **2. Overview of the Training**

### **Selection of schools and participant teachers**

SchoolNet contacted the principal of Pula Madibogo Primary, Ms Phuthi Ragophala and discussed the criteria for selection of participant teachers for this course. Ms Fiona Wallace from ISPA and Mr Ben Bredenkamp of NetDay further visited the school to confirm the selection of schools and the list of participant teachers (attached at end of report). NetDay was able to provide technical expertise to ensure that sufficient computers were in good working condition and the venue was adequately set up for training.

### **Description of the Training**

Upon arrival, the trainer, Mr Tshilidzi Tshiredo was presented with a choice of two computer centre venues for training. Being more comfortable in the Microsoft environment, he regretfully chose this option without conferring with the SchoolNet office. Unfortunately this venue had not been prepared for the training session and there were not adequate computers for each participant to have his or her own computer to work on. This was resolved by supplementing the insufficient desktops with use of four teachers' personal laptops.

The 14 course modules of the Intel Getting Started course were completed during the allocated training period. The focussed discussion on 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and approaches to learning was highly appreciated by teachers. Listening skills, cooperation with peers and positive communication skills were practiced during completion of activities. Not all trainees were able to complete their selected activities. They acknowledged that although their skills were good, they experienced difficulty putting these skills into practice. To overcome this the trainer scaffolded some activities and modelled the process participants should follow and then allowed participants to work through activities independently as he carefully faded his support to encourage independent learning.

The "Discovering and exploring the internet" modules provided participants with an opportunity to request assistance in creating email addresses. Some time was spent on participants sending and receiving emails. One of the highlights of the course occurred during the research activity when a participant was able to see her Master's research study available on the Google Scholar site.

## **Participants**

It is unfortunate that of the twenty teachers who were expected at the course only sixteen attended. These participant teachers were reportedly ICT literate which could be attributed to teachers having attended the basic and advanced training provided by Avuxeni. This allowed teachers to appreciate the Getting Started course in respect of contextualised scenarios that participants could immediately implement in their schools.

Participants reportedly built up a good relationship with the trainer and even went so far as to provide him with a certificate and a gift for his expertise and assistance during the training.

## **Catering for the duration of the course**

SchoolNet coordinated catering through Ms Ragaphala as the school had previously provided catering and was equipped to once again fulfil this need. Catering was reportedly well organised and superb meals were provided.

## **3. Conclusion**

In general the training was well received except for the documented challenges around the choice of venue. The coursework was contextualised and simple to work through. This provided adequate opportunities for teachers to work through practical scenarios that teachers would encounter at schools. The teachers have indicated that they now eagerly await the next course which would bring project based teaching and learning approaches to the fore.

SchoolNet would like to thank ISPA, the Teachers Working Group and all participant teachers for making this training a huge success.

[www.schoolnet.org.za](http://www.schoolnet.org.za)

2012/04/17

**Annexure: List of Schools and Participants**

	<b>Teacher Name &amp; Surname</b>	<b>School Name</b>
1	Letsoalo Jerida Maphalala	Diopong Primary
2	Malatji Matema Jacobeth	Diopong Primary
3	Mosana M.R	Moriting Primary
4	Rawane Lesibe Jimmy	Thomo Primary
5	Masanya Malesela Frans	Thomo Primary
6	Pilusa Mamoloko Selina	Thomo Primary
7	Madiba Jane Mokgaetsi	Dikolobe Primary
8	Mothapo Makgari Deborah	Dikolobe Primary
9	Ramaphoko Martha Malehu	Dikolobe Primary
10	Rasekgokga Mantsha Albertina	Toronto Primary
11	Mathobela Thembi	Toronto Primary
12	Magoro Mmatsidi Anna	Toronto Primary
13	Modiba Dibageng Alpheus	Pula Madibogo Primary
14	Mamabolo Mapula Angy	Pula Madibogo Primary
15	Bopape Mapula Gladys	Pula Madibogo Primary
16	Mohlake Matsaka Vernice	Pula Madibogo Primary