

ACSA donates educational equipment to top WC schools

The Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA) has donated educational equipment worth R313,000 to the top eight schools in the proximity of the Cape Town International Airport.



The eight schools were identified by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) as the secondary schools that have shown an improvement in their Grade 12 pass rates.

The grant will provide the eight secondary schools with interactive whiteboards, devices that have largely replaced traditional whiteboards in many modern schools. An interactive white board acts as a large display that projects a computer desktop onto the board's surface so that users control the computer using a pen, finger or stylus.

Over the past ten years, Cape Town International Airport has donated R18.1m towards such community projects near the airport. Through this initiative, the schools receive interactive white boards, educational software and training for teachers. In the past four years, 31 interactive white boards have been donated valued at close to R1m.

Upliftment of communities

Speaking at the handover event at Hindle Secondary, Mark Maclean, the assistant general manager of Cape Town International Airport, said that business at Cape Town International Airport is not only about airports and operations - it's also about giving back to communities. "The upliftment of the airport's immediate surrounding communities is important to us and in achieving this, we have to ensure that whatever support we give leads to self-reliance and sustainable projects which benefit the people living in these communities."

The eight performing schools (ranked by Grade 12 pass rate percentages for 2015) that will benefit from the donation are:

- Hindle Secondary - (from 95% in 2014 to 98.5% in 2015)
- Elsies River Secondary - (from 88.8% in 2014 to 96.6% in 2015)
- Perseverance Secondary - (93.3%)

- Beauvallon Secondary - (93%)
- Florida Secondary - (from 85.6% in 2014 to 90.9% in 2015)
- Cravenby Secondary - (from 75.4.8% in 2014 to 83.5% in 2015)
- John Ramsey Secondary - (76.4%)
- Bishop Lavis Secondary - (69.5%)

Other contributions

Maclean added that the other educational support contributions from the Cape Town International Airport include the Hoofweg Learning and Resource Centre, a partnership with the Western Cape Education Department and AfriSam.

“This e-learning centre at the Hoofweg Primary School in Wesbank, Delft was a first of its kind in the Western Cape, made possible by an initial donation of R1.6m towards this project. The centre includes a library, computer lab and training facility, accessible to three other schools in the vicinity too.

“As a company we see the potential that education brings and by investing in it, we not only set individuals for success, but we strengthen communities to become relevant and sustainable,” he concluded.

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