



HAND OVER:
The mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality Cllr Pule Shayi with Speaker Merriam Malatji, Palabora Copper's External affairs and communications Manager Lydia Radebe, SGB members and representatives from AMMMSA during the official hand over of a cheque worth R15 000 to the school on Monday June 26.

Relebogile receives generous donation

Relebogile High School received an urgent lifeline in the form of a donation.

Monday 26 June was a sacred one for the teachers and learners of Relebogile High School from Namakgale, in many respects.

The school was honoured with a special visit by the Mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality, Cllr Pule Shayi, representatives from Palabora Copper and Association of Mine Managers of South Africa (AMMMSA) to hand over donation of a R15 000 cheque to the school.

The donation came after Relebogile High School was identified by Palabora Copper and the Mayor of the Ba-Phalaborwa after sensible consultations with Ward Counsellors and all relevant stakeholders. Relebogile topped the list of the schools that needed an urgent lifeline, resulting in the unanimous decision to award it with this much needed donation.

Palabora Copper's External Affairs and Communications Manager, Lydia Jemina

Radebe said that "the decision to select one school out of more than 50 schools that are in Phalaborwa whom most needed urgent support was a difficult one for both the Mayor, Palabora Copper and AMMMSA. However, the 2017 donation from AMMMSA was meant for one school and other schools will benefit from other initiatives in the future".

Radebe said that despite the request from the Mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa to split the cheque into smaller amounts to benefit more schools, the AMMMSA donation guidelines were intended for one school so that the impact for the selected school can be visible.

"The donation from AMMMSA to schools is part of the collaboration between Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality through the Mayor's office, AMMMSA and Palabora Copper to continue improving the lives of Ba-Phalaborwa and giving back to the community.

Palabora Copper is affiliated to AMMMSA

which donated the cheque. Palabora

Copper has spent millions in community development projects including construction of roads and clinics and whenever there is a slight opportunity to get any donation from our partners, we ensure that is channelled through to Phalaborwa to improve the lives of the people" Radebe said

During his short speech, the Mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa, Cllr Pule Shayi said that his office and Palabora Copper have made a commitment to work on advancing the lives of the people in Phalaborwa.

"During my term in office and all the time I have worked and engaged with Palabora Copper, I have come to view Palabora Copper as a company that cares deeply about our communities. Palabora Copper has assisted the Municipality a lot in ensuring that our social contract with our people is achieved.

Although R15000 may seem to be little, our learners will benefit from its utilisation" said Cllr Pule Shayi.

Shayi, a former teacher for a period of more than 12 years said that he understands challenges that schools are faced with, thus, expressed his gratitude to Palabora Copper and AMMMSA for continuing to better the lives of Ba-Phalaborwa.

The handover ceremony was also attended by amongst others, Speaker of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality, Cllr Merriam Malatji, SGB Members and Ward 5 Councillor, Mr Jack Baloyi.

In closing the hand over event, Relebogile High School Principal Mr Zulu Vincent Mathe sent his heartfelt gratitude to Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality, Palabora Copper, AMMMSA and all stakeholders that were present.

"Indeed Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality, Palabora Copper and AMMMSA have touched us and we will use the donation money to improve the learning and teaching in our school" said Mr Zulu Vincent Mathe.