

SPEAKERS DEBATING CUP SPEAKING NOTES

Good Afternoon,

Good Evening Jo'burgers, welcome to "*The Talk*" with myself, The Speaker of Council. We are live on various platforms such as the City of Jo'burg's social media platforms, as well as my own page which is "**Nonceba Molwele**" on Facebook and **@Speaker_CoJ** on Twitter.

We are also live on Jozi Fm until 7-00pm, following which we will then take the stream and play it on Eldos FM from 8-9pm. Today we are also joined by Radio Islam, and Eastwave FM. We also welcome Chai FM, who will stream the show tomorrow morning as per usual (Thursday from 09:00-10:00). Thank you very much to all the community media who continue to partner with us on this very important initiative.

Greetings to our Civic Education Partner Dr Fundile Nyati, all the guests that are present on the platforms, all radio stations and partners on the platform, viewers that are online, officials and leadership.

Today was a very busy day in Council as we launched the Speakers debating cup in partnership with the Pan Africanist School Debating Council. This is a pilot programme that seeks to involve young people of high school going age in the business of Council and to amplify their voices in council business and in the fight against unemployment, inequality and poverty.

So why the debating cup? Decades of academic research have proven that the benefits that accrue because of engaging in debate are numerous.

Listeners and viewers, we know what debating can do for young people. We know that debating can develop leadership skills in young people, that it sharpens focus, it allows for young people to be better at research. It enables young pupils to be able to articulate concepts and ideas.

It improves their public speaking skills. It enhances their critical thinking, and critical analysis and thus it improves their ability to argue for and or against certain ideas. It really does groom them to be all round level-headed leaders of now and of the future.

The idea is to bring on board as many partners and many young people as possible into the programme.

So I thought it a great idea to bring this initiative onto the community radio platforms in order to bring more awareness to our communities, our young people, principles, school governing bodies and parents etc.

So today I am hosting the head of the Johannesburg Student Council Ms Brenda Andrews, as well as our partner in this initiative, the Pan African Schools Debating Council which is represented by its Vice President, Mr Itumeleng Mohanoe. We also have the young people who in the Johannesburg Student Council on the platform as well as the young people who were involved in the debating cup this afternoon.

Before I hand over to Mr Hans, let me start by asking Ms Andrews to tell us about the Student Council and the work that it does, and the partnership between the City and the Pan African Schools Debating Council.

Questions:

1. Why is this programme important for the development of young people in our City (Itumeleng)
2. How can schools get involved in the Speakers Debating Cup (Itumeleng)
3. Since the Speakers Debating Cup was launched this morning what was your experience of today's launch (Student)
4. To the winning team of the Debating cup, which is St Mary's School in Waverly, what can you share with us and the young people of Johannesburg about the preparation that goes into preparing for a debate of this magnitude.