

## School Partnerships Germany – South Africa

### *Bringing schools together*



For schools interested to find a partner school in Germany, kindly provide us with a few background information:

#### **1. Information about your school. What would you like to tell a prospective partner school about your school?**

Leonard Ntshuntshe is located in EZINAMBENI, KwaGaqqa. The school has an average enrolment of 1200 learners per annum. A majority of learners in the school reside in the neighbouring informal settlement. As you may be aware, EZINAMBENI is one of the needy areas, with a high rate of unemployment. Due to this state of affairs, the government has declared the school a no fee school, quintal 2. The school therefore relies on funds allocated by the Department of Education. Irrespective of the state of affairs we, strive for Excellence, Teamwork, Innovation and Cleanliness which are our values.

The school has been performing above 80 % for the past seven years thus 88.6 % in 2011, 81.1% in 2012, 89.2% in 2013, 90.6% in 2014, and 95.4% in 2015. In 2016 the school obtained 99.42%, out of 126, with only one learner unsuccessful. Our 2017 performance was 97.4%. Against all odds and socioeconomic state we strive to give children from our community quality education.

#### **2. Why are you interested to engage in a school partnership with Germany? What do you feel are the benefits?**

Having been in Germany myself on a GIZ initiative on ESD, it has always been my wish to expose South African Youth to international exchange. I have always believed that South Africans once exposed to the global village we become challenged to the core and use the experience to act local in a more responsible manner.

As the head of the institution I truly believe this school once engaged in such a partnership with a school in Germany, the prospective partner has a lot to learn from us as well. The partnership will not only benefit the South African school but the Germans will learn a lot as well.

#### **3. How do you imagine a partnership would work? What are activities that could happen?**

Virtual Exchange is one option (e.g. Google Hangout). Student exchange is another. In terms of activities I think both schools can come up with topics of interest, as the partnership expands more could be structured for better management.

#### **4. What do you think are important criteria for a school partnership to work well?**

Diversity is a critical part to a partnership. In diversity we see that we are more similar than different. So same age group is a perfect criteria for a working partnership. Once again I think diversity does spark interest.

**5. Who would be responsible for the school partnership at your school? What communication channels could be used?**

The following 3 teachers will be responsible and myself will be responsible for the partnership and communication channels could be through emails, whatsApp, Google Hangout and more.

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