

INTERNAL NOTICE TO ALL STAFF

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Encouraged: Minister Michael Masutha with learners around Pretoria schools who visited the department during the "Take a Girl Child to Work Day" on 29 May 2014.

Learners inspired by "Take a Girl Child to work" Campaign

By Mosima Mashao

Not many can tell a story of meeting with a minister and asking him about his career and aspirations.

During the "Take a Girl Child to Work" day, about 13 learners from different schools around Pretoria met with the new Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Advocate Michael Masutha, to ask him about his career and challenges he encountered along the way.

The learners who have a common interest of pursuing a career in law visited the department to gain exposure and understanding on the different legal professions found in the department.

Addressing the learners, Minister Masutha said, "You are fortunate that there are campaigns such as the 'Take a Girl Child to Work Day' that empower young girls as we did not have such platforms when we were growing up. The department is honoured to take part in such campaigns and give you as much exposure as possible with regard to the legal profession and our processes".

Excel Manabile, a Grade 11 learner at Lotus Gardens High School said she is doing commer-

cial subjects and would like to study either financial accounting or law in tertiary. "I am undecided as to which field of study I would like to venture into, hence I took the opportunity to be part of the justice department Take a Girl Child to Work campaign", she remarked.

Ms Lerato Mahlangu, who works as a Senior Human Resource Officer in the department hoped that her grand-daughter who aspires to become a lawyer will get to experience on how the legal system works through the campaign.

The learners were taken to different branches and units such as the Office of the Family Advocate in Pretoria where they interacted with family counsellors and advocates on issues of children's rights, divorce, parental rights and responsibilities.

Ms Nthabiseng Ntsoane of the Masters of the North Gauteng High Court office gave the group a walk about at the deceased estates and the

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Words of Inspiration: Minister Michael Masutha talks to the learner girls about his career path during the Take a Girl Child to Work Day.

Guardian's Fund sections where they experienced enquiries being made by the members of the public and how the systems on both sections work.

Tshegofatso Maja, a grade 11 pupil at Pretoria High School for Girls said the day was fruitful as she got a glimpse of what the law field entails. "I am certain that I will study Law at tertiary level," she added. Vooortrekker Hoogte High School's



Ms Nthabiseng Ntsoane (centre) Deputy Master of the North Gauteng High Court explains to learners.

Nqobile Sibiyi who is in Grade 12 was inspired by the minister's story and feels that if she is committed to her school work, she will become an exceptional advocate in future.

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