



NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS UNION (NPSWU)

HEAD OFFICE (DURBAN)
22 Davenport Avenue
Davenport
Durban, 4001
P.O. Box 1100
Durban, 4000
Tel: 031 304 7563
Email:
info@npswu.org
www.npswu.org

GAUTENG OFFICE
No 1 2nd Avenue
Alberton
1450
P.O. Box 6672
Johannesburg, 2000
Tel: 011 333 7981
Email:
jhb@npswu.org
www.npswu.org

LIMPOPO OFFICE
Unit 12
Marshall Chambers
130 Marshall Street
Polokwane
0700
Tel: 015 291 1276
Email:
limpopo@npswu.org
www.npswu.org

WESTERNCAPE
Suite No GE,
Building No. 17
Waverley Business Park
Wycroft Road, Mowbray
Observatory, Cape Town, 7700
Tel: 021 447 2870
Email:
westerncape@npswu.org
www.npswu.org

Enquiries: President AV Ngubane
Contact: 060 989 2251
Email: mbomvu@npswu.org

PRESS RELEASE / BULLETIN/MEDIA STATEMENT

12 January 2026

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2025 MATRICULANTS AND A MESSAGE OF HOPE TO THOSE WHO MUST TRY AGAIN

On behalf of **NPSWU** I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all matriculants who have successfully passed their 2025 National Senior Certificate examinations. This achievement represents years of perseverance, discipline, and resilience under circumstances that were often far from ideal. Passing matric is not just an academic milestone, but a powerful step towards building a better future for yourselves, your families, and the country.

To those learners who did not achieve the desired results this time around, I wish to emphasise that this outcome does **not define your worth, intelligence, or future potential**. Many successful leaders, professionals, and entrepreneurs have faced setbacks along their journeys. Opportunities still exist through supplementary examinations, rewriting matric subjects, TVET colleges, skills development programmes, and other alternative education pathways. This is not the end — it is simply a different route forward, and the Union encourages you not to lose hope.

I also take this opportunity to **salute and thank educators** across the country who continue to work under extremely difficult conditions. Teachers remain the backbone of the education system, often operating in overcrowded classrooms, with limited resources, increasing administrative burdens, and mounting personal financial pressures. Despite these challenges, educators continue to give their best to ensure learners succeed, and their dedication must be recognised and supported.

At the same time, the **NPSWU** is deeply concerned about the **rising cost of living facing education workers**, including the continuous increases in **GEMS medical aid subscriptions**. Workers cannot be expected to shoulder escalating deductions while their salaries remain under pressure. **NPSWU** reiterates its firm position that Government workers **must not be forced into a single medical aid scheme**.

Competition in the Public medical aid sector is essential to protect workers' rights, affordability, and freedom of choice.

GEMS currently operates in an environment with no competition, allowing it to impose increases and make unilateral decisions that negatively affect workers. As a Union, we will continue to **fight against any attempt to undermine workers' choices**, and we will advocate for fair, affordable, and transparent medical aid options for all public sector employees.

As the nation reflects on the 2025 matric results, we call on government and all stakeholders to invest more meaningfully in education, support learners beyond exam results, and improve the working conditions of teachers. Education remains a cornerstone of social and economic development, and its success depends on how we value both learners and educators.

Once again, congratulations to all successful matriculants. To those who must try again — your journey is not over. And to our educators — we see you, we thank you, and we will continue to stand with you.

Issued by:

NPSWU PRESIDENT

V Ngubane
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'V Ngubane', written in a cursive style.