



Draft Programme

 **SAPA
2024**
National
Conference

**12 - 14
September**

Emperors Palace,
Gauteng



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SAPA NATIONAL
South African Principals Association

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Welcome to the SAPA National Conference 2024: Shaping Education's Future Together!

We are thrilled to unveil the draft programme for the highly anticipated SACE-accredited SAPA National Conference, taking place 12 - 14 September at Emperors Palace in Johannesburg. This year's theme, "Connecting Through Diversity," celebrates the shared vision of empowering every learner while recognising the unique strengths of each school leader.

This comprehensive programme offers a wealth of content designed to address the most pressing issues faced by educators today. Dive deep into our diverse programme tracks, explore insightful workshops, and gain valuable knowledge from renowned speakers.

Whether you're seeking to hone your leadership skills, discover innovative teaching methodologies, or address infrastructural challenges, the SAPA National Conference has something for you. Leave equipped with practical solutions, a renewed sense of inspiration, and a network of passionate colleagues ready to collaborate in shaping a brighter future for South Africa's education system.

Prepare to be challenged, inspired, and empowered. Explore the draft programme and get ready for a truly transformative conference experience!

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Empowering Leaders, Shaping Our Future

Grant Butler

National President
South African Principals
Association (SAPA)

I am thrilled to welcome you to the upcoming National Conference taking place in Gauteng this September! The SAPA National Conference is a cornerstone event for our organisation, serving as a powerful platform for empowering school leaders across South Africa.

Every year, this event brings together a diverse range of educators, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange. Through workshops, discussions, and presentations, delegates gain valuable insights into the latest trends and best practices in education leadership. This year's theme, "Connecting Through Diversity: Shaping the Future of Education Together," perfectly captures the spirit of our conference and community.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to our dedicated SAPA Gauteng team for their outstanding efforts in hosting this prestigious event. Their commitment to making this conference a success is truly commendable. Gauteng, a province teeming with educational diversity, is the perfect setting for this gathering. The conference will provide a unique opportunity for school leaders from all corners of the country to connect, share their experiences, and learn from one another.

To those who haven't registered yet, I urge you to do so. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to network, learn, and grow as leaders. Together, we can build a brighter future for our schools and our learners.



A Warm Welcome from SAPA Gauteng

Julia Hlahle

Gauteng President
South African Principals
Association (SAPA)

I extend a warm welcome, on behalf of SAPA Gauteng, to the upcoming SAPA National Conference. From 12 – 14 September, Emperors Palace in Johannesburg will be our central hub for a truly enriching experience. We are incredibly honoured to host this gathering in Gauteng, a province that embodies the vibrant diversity of South African education.

The SAPA National Conference transcends the ordinary. It signifies a powerful coming together of school leaders, a collective commitment to shaping the future of education for our nation's youth. This year's theme, "Connecting Through Diversity: Shaping the Future of Education Together," beautifully captures this spirit. We celebrate the shared vision that unites us while acknowledging the unique strengths and experiences each of us brings to the table.

This conference presents a unique opportunity for you to be at the forefront of shaping South Africa's educational landscape. Engage in thought-provoking discussions, share best practices with colleagues, and gain valuable insights from esteemed speakers. If you haven't already secured your spot, I urge you to register and become an active participant in this transformative event.

SAPA Gauteng is thrilled to be your host, and we eagerly await welcoming you to a truly inspiring conference experience!

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Connecting *through diversity*



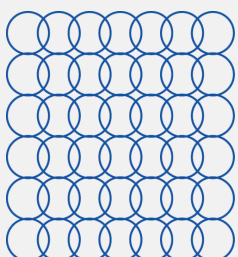
Unity in Vision, Diversity in Action

The SAPA National Conference is a powerful platform where we, as educational leaders from across South Africa, come together to forge a collective commitment to shaping the future of our nation's schools.

Our theme, "Connecting Through Diversity," isn't just a slogan. It's a celebration of the unifying vision we share – to provide every child with an excellent education. But this vision thrives on the unique strengths each of us brings to the table. Whether you lead a school in the heart of a bustling city or a rural haven, your experiences, your perspectives, and your passions are invaluable.

The conference is designed to bridge these diverse backgrounds, fostering a sense of community and collaboration. Imagine the wealth of knowledge we can share! From the innovative practices honed in urban settings to the resilient spirit that flourishes in rural schools, we can all learn from each other.

Together, we can create a tapestry of educational excellence that benefits every learner in South Africa.



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Get Involved

The SAPA National Conference is a prime opportunity for public school principals and deputies to engage with the future of education in South Africa. The conference offers a chance to connect with colleagues, learn from thought leaders, and participate in workshops that address the most pressing issues in education. Whether you choose to register as an attendee, or get more involved by becoming a sponsor or showcasing your products or services as an exhibitor, the SAPA National Conference promises to be an enriching experience for all those invested in shaping the educational landscape of South Africa.

Register to Attend

[Register Now](#)



Members
R 6370



Non-Members
R 6950



Gala Dinner
R650

Become a Sponsor

[Get in Touch](#)

By sponsoring the SAPA National Conference, you are not just investing in an event; you are investing in the future of education and the leaders who shape it.

Your support plays a pivotal role in the success of this gathering and the continued development of educational excellence in South Africa.

Shape the future of education! Sponsor the SAPA National Conference and connect with SA's leading school principals.

Connect with Leaders in Education

[Book Your Space](#)

Showcase Your Solutions to South Africa's School Leaders.

As an exhibitor, you're not just showcasing products; you're engaging with leaders on the frontlines, eager for innovative solutions that cater to a spectrum of educational needs. Your participation is an opportunity to spark change and drive progress.

Connect with key decision-makers in education at the SAPA National Conference. Secure your exhibition space without delay.



Plenary Highlights

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Dr David Molapo

David Molapo is a leading management consultant, educator, and renowned motivational speaker known for his ability to captivate audiences with a unique blend of humour, incredible stage presence, and personal life experiences. Each year, he motivates and inspires over a million people in South Africa, equipping them with the confidence and tools to transform their lives and positively impact those around them.



Saray Khumalo

Saray Khumalo is an award-winning mountaineer, a Mandela Libraries ambassador, a social entrepreneur and an executive in one of the distinguished financial institutions in South Africa. She has over time demonstrated her commitment to making a difference in her environment through mountaineering. Saray delivers motivational and actionable talks to drive meaningful outcomes for organisations and communities.



Hubert Mveli

Hubert Mveli, Director-General for Basic Education, brings extensive experience and deep sector understanding. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education with Honours, a Bachelor of Administration in Industrial Relations with Honours, and a Master's Degree in Development and Management from the University of the North West. Starting as a teacher at Bophirima High School in 1990, he has risen through the ranks and contributed to key education policies.



Plenary Highlights

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James Ndlebe

James Ndlebe, a Soweto-born educator, has built an impressive career since graduating cum laude in Biology from Soweto College. Ndlebe has been an executive member of the Education Management Association of South Africa and contributed to significant publications on educational leadership and financial management. Currently, he serves as the Chief Director for Planning and Monitoring Implementation at the Department of Basic Education.



Ella Mokgalane

Ella Mokgalane joined SACE in 1998 as the Professional Development Manager and has risen to the position of CEO since 2018. Before her tenure at SACE, she served as Deputy Chief Education Specialist: HRD in the Mpumalanga Department of Education, and worked as a researcher, lecturer at Wits University, and teacher. She currently runs a programme on SACE Women in Educational Leadership and Management, with 22 women contributing to a book on their principalship experiences.



Steve Sherman

Steve Sherman is the Chief Imagination Officer for Living Maths, a STEAM-based NGO in Cape Town, South Africa. A distinguished educator, Steve has received the Global Teacher award, delivered two TEDx talks, and is a Microsoft Innovative Education Expert. He stands out as one of only two Global Learning Mentors in South Africa and serves as a Kahoot Ambassador and verified Educator, as well as a Mote Certified Educator.



Plenary Highlights

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Zanele Njapha

Zanele Njapha is the CEO of The UnLearners, a Forbes Contributor specialising in navigating organisational change, and a Neuro Coach for transformative leaders. She is the Chair of The UnLearning Children Foundation and an award-winning TEDx speaker. Additionally, Zanele serves on the faculty at Duke Corporate Education, where she leverages her expertise to educate and inspire future leaders.



Prof Mazwe Majola

Professor Mazwe Majola, with over 30 years of experience in leadership and management, is a multi-faceted professional. He's an author, speaker, consultant, and coach specialising in leadership, transformation, and personal mastery. He founded the Worldwide Institute of Leadership and Development (WILD) to empower leaders, and also leads Umnotho Wamazwe Consulting and Country Publishers, a self-publishing company.



Dr Mariëtte Wheeler

Mariëtte Wheeler, a marine biologist and qualified teacher, completed her PhD at the University of Cape Town on the effects of human disturbance on seabirds and seals at sub-Antarctic Marion Island. Recognised for her excellence, she was named the Department of Basic Education E3's National Best Teacher in 2021 and was a Top 10 finalist for the 2023 Varkey Foundation Global Teacher Prize. In April 2024, she began her role as Deputy Chief Education Specialist for Marine Sciences and Agricultural Subjects at the Western Cape Education Department.

Programme Tracks

01

Cultivating Well-Being: Psycho-Social Support & Wellness

This track tackles the crucial issue of well-being in the school community. We'll delve into strategies for supporting the mental health of both learners and educators. Learn how to create stress-management techniques, foster resilience, and build supportive environments where everyone can thrive.

02

Leading with Vision: Leadership & Administration

Sharpen your leadership skills and navigate the complexities of school administration. We'll explore topics like ethical decision-making, effective team building, and innovative approaches to school management. Gain valuable insights to empower you as a visionary leader.

03

Igniting Student Potential: Curriculum and Instructional Excellence: Leadership & Administration

This track focuses on the heart of education: curriculum development and engaging instruction. Discover fresh approaches to curriculum design, explore cutting-edge teaching methodologies, and learn how to spark learner engagement. Leave equipped with strategies to ignite a passion for learning in your classrooms.

04

Embracing Innovation: Digital Skills & Technology Integration

In today's dynamic world, technology plays a vital role in education. This track will equip you to leverage the power of technology effectively. Learn how to integrate technology seamlessly in your classrooms, hone digital literacy, and master the art of managing online learning resources.

05

Building a Foundation for Success: Infrastructure & Resource Management

This track tackles the essential but often-overlooked aspect of school infrastructure and resource management. We'll address strategies for overcoming infrastructural challenges, explore effective resource allocation techniques, and equip you with the knowledge to create conducive learning environments where learners can flourish.

DAY 1

Thursday, 12
September '24

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Conference

Please note that this is a draft programme. Session and plenary speakers are in the process of being finalised and will be added to the programme soon.

07:30 - 15:00

Pre-Conference Tours

Pre-conference tours can be booked when registering online or via a booking form. Get more info [here](#).

08:00

Registration Opens

Registration closes 31 August. If you're not registered yet, [secure your seat](#) without delay.

15:00

Exhibition Opens

Meet our growing list of 2024 SAPA National Conference exhibitors [here](#).

16:00 - 18:10

Opening Ceremony

Centre Court

18:10 - 21:00

Welcome Cocktail

Exhibition Foyer

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DAY 2

Friday, 13
September '24



Please note that this is a draft programme. Session and plenary speakers are in the process of being finalised and will be added to the programme soon.

09:00 – 11:00

Plenary 2

Centre Court

11:00 – 11:30

Refreshment Break & Exhibition

11:30 – 12:30

Parallel Sessions 1a

Track 1: Psycho-Social Support and Wellness

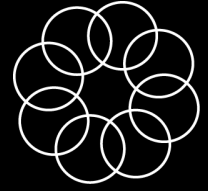
Building Resilience in School Leaders

School environments are becoming increasingly complex due to layered traumas of educators and students, societal inequalities, uncertain futures for youth, and potential dangers in surrounding communities. With limited training and resources available, this workshop equips school leaders with the understanding, language, and tools to recognise trauma manifestations and build resilience in themselves, their staff, and their learners.

Track 2: Leadership and Administration

Transformational Leadership: Tips & Tools for a Talent Turnaround

Though leading and motivating staff is always an endeavour, resource-constrained environments present a unique challenge. This session tackles those difficulties, examining common leadership issues faced by principals. It equips you with fresh perspectives, practical tools, and actionable steps to boost workplace morale, cultivate empowered and enthusiastic staff, and foster an inclusive environment – all designed to help you get the most out of your educators and administrators, even with limited resources.



Track 3: Curriculum and Instructional Excellence (Sponsored by Edshed)
Innovative Teaching Methodologies & Strategies for the Classroom of the Future

Despite the internet's potential for educational disruption, many schools struggle with digital exclusion. This session focuses on alternative, context-neutral innovations in teaching methods, curriculum design, and learner engagement. By attending, school leaders will broaden their understanding of innovation, explore new approaches to curriculum and assessment, and discover practical strategies to enhance learner engagement regardless of their environment.

Track 4: Digital Skills and Technology Integration
The Transformational Power of Technology & Innovation

This session will showcase a range of educational technology innovations designed to transform South Africa's learning landscape. School leaders will explore how even simple tech applications can significantly benefit educators and learners, discover how to implement these solutions in resource-limited schools, and gain valuable insights into thoughtful classroom technology integration.

Track 5: Infrastructure and Resource Management (Sponsored by SANTAM)
Operating in Constraint: Applying Lean Principles to School Management

Public schools often face resource limitations, leaving leaders feeling inadequately equipped to drive change. This session aims to bridge this gap by offering school leaders fresh perspectives and practical strategies for resource management, encompassing strategic planning, fundraising, and other business-oriented approaches.

12:30 – 13:30

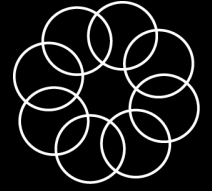
Networking Lunch & Exhibition

13:30 – 14:30

Parallel Sessions 1b

Track 1: Psycho-Social Support and Wellness
Creating a Supportive & Inclusive Classroom Environment

Feeling excluded, whether due to learning difficulties, social differences, or background, is a common cause of stress and mental anguish in learners. This session equips educators with practical tools to create supportive and inclusive classrooms. By fostering a safe and secure environment, educators can empower children to thrive and ensure all pupils learn to support one another for optimal learning and well-being.



Track 2: Leadership & Administration

Ethical and Responsible Educators & Leaders

Countering negativity surrounding school leadership, this session dives into ethical and responsible decision-making. We'll explore how ethical leaders operate, equip you with tools for making ethical choices, and delve into the role of regulatory bodies. You'll also gain strategies to empower future educators to uphold the school's reputation through their own ethical practices.

Track 3: Curriculum and Instructional Excellence (Sponsored by Edshed)

Building Curriculum for Special Learners

This session empowers educators with practical tips, tools, and resources to design curriculum specifically focused on the needs of special learners, with clear objectives to improve recognition of these students and equip educators with easily implementable strategies for effective support.

Track 4: Digital Skills and Technology Integration

Digital Skills for the Future

Track 5: Infrastructure and Resource Management (Sponsored by SANTAM)

Santam Workshop

The workshop tackles disaster preparedness in schools. This collaborative effort between Santam, the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC), and the Department of Basic Education (DBE) focuses on building partnerships for disaster risk reduction in basic education. The workshop equips educators with the tools and strategies to create safer learning environments for all learners.

14:30 – 15:30

Refreshment Break & Exhibition

15:30 – 16:30

SAPA Annual General Meeting

16:30 – 18:30

Delegates at Leisure

18:30 – 23:00

Gala Dinner – Black Tie

DAY 3

Saturday, 14
September '24



Please note that this is a draft programme. Session and plenary speakers are in the process of being finalised and will be added to the programme soon.

08:30 – 10:00

Workshops: Skills Development for Leaders

In these focused workshops, school leaders will gain practical, bite-sized training on specific areas related to infrastructure management and resource allocation. This targeted approach aims to quickly equip them with the skills needed to effectively and efficiently manage their human capital and other resources.

Workshop 1: Fundraising

Master the art of securing resources and turn fundraising into a winning strategy at this empowering workshop.

Workshop 2: Stakeholder Mapping and Management

This workshop equips school leaders to identify, understand, and collaborate effectively with all those invested in their school's success.

Workshop 3: Entrepreneurial Thinking

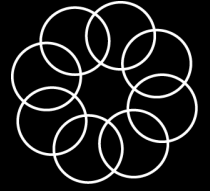
School leaders can ignite innovation and cultivate learner potential in this workshop exploring the power of entrepreneurial thinking in education.

Workshop 4: Leadership & Communication

This workshop empowers school leaders to become stronger communicators and build successful teams through practical strategies and insightful discussions.

Workshop 5: Financial Literacy

This workshop empowers school leaders with the knowledge and resources to champion financial literacy within their schools.



10:00 – 11:00

Refreshment Break & Exhibition

11:00 – 13:00

Plenary 3

Centre Court

13:00 – 14:00

Networking Lunch & Exhibition

14:00 – 16:00

Closing Plenary



Get in Touch

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