

# Foschini Group helps schools EQUIP themselves in education development



Through the NBI's EQUIP programme, the Foschini Group is helping schools build capacity to develop into strong and viable institutions with sound and strategically designed development plans.

EQUIP embraces sustainability by ensuring that schools take responsibility for their own development, and works in partnership with the education departments at various levels.

High on its list of critical objectives is the aim of assisting schools to take responsibility for their own progression towards self-reliance and the delivery of quality teaching and learning. The programme also includes the professional development of selected educators in the areas of maths and science, and in some instances, technology and literacy.

A small grant is given to schools themselves in the course of their time with EQUIP. This serves as an incentive to draft and to promote the implementation of school development plans.

The programme has a nationwide reach and is currently being implemented in over 320 schools in Gauteng, Western Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga and the North West Province. From its inception in 1995 until the present time, it has achieved a number of significant long-term improvements in schools. These include:

- Basic functionality
- Professional co-operation and teamwork
- Learner performance
- Leadership and management

- Ability to plan for school development and implement these plans in line with the nine performance areas set out by the Department of Education
- Effective implementation of school policies
- Teacher qualifications and competence in maths and science
- Improved levels of community support.

The Foschini Group is currently involved in 7 schools in the Western Cape and to date have donated R440 000 to these schools in order to implement the EQUIP programme.

In 2006, TFG decided to extend their funding of the EQUIP programme to a JHB based school and to date have donated R124 000. The beneficiary school is Welamlambo Primary in Thembisa.

Recently, representatives of The Foschini Group CSI, attended ceremonial handovers of the funding for the 2007/08 financial year for the Nomzamo Cluster (5 schools) and Devon Valley Cluster (2 schools). Hosting the handover on behalf of the two clusters were Simanyene High School and Devon Valley Primary School.



Devon Valley Primary School learners



Representatives of the Nomzamo Cluster

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THE FOSCHINI GROUP CSI

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