
***St David's Marist Foundation* launches 'Business in Education' B-BBEE Bursary Fund Initiative**

Johannesburg, 3 March 2016. Today *St David's Marist Inanda*, through the School's Foundation, launched an education initiative to encourage the business community of South Africa to collaborate with the school in establishing a fund which will enable the school to expand its existing bursary programme which awards young deserving scholars from historically disadvantaged backgrounds, with bursaries to attend this school of excellence. The initiative was launched at the JSE with a *market open* to celebrate.

Market openings at the JSE are often reserved for newly listed companies issuing their stock for public trade and in celebration of a new chapter in a company's life. However, the JSE saw it fitting to host the business in education fund initiated by *St David's Inanda School* and notably as the first school to open the market.

St David's Marist Inanda is one of hundreds of Marist Schools throughout the world, and carries a strong legacy of social responsibility and challenging the status quo. The school takes pride in its mission of being an African School, preparing boys to take their place in society as enquiring, well-balanced individuals aware of their social responsibilities to the wider community and ready to respond with compassion and justice to the realities of society. *St David's Marist Inanda* celebrates its 75th Jubilee this year.

One of the ways that the school has endeavoured to realise its mission is with the launch of the *Business in Education* B-BBEE Initiative through the *St David's Marist Foundation*. This initiative invites business to engage more strategically in education through an earlier intervention in the development of our future leaders. This can be achieved through, amongst other ways, the funding of bursaries for boys from previously disadvantaged backgrounds who show potential in one or more of the schools' core focus areas of academics, sport, cultural, leadership and service. *St David's* has a proven track record of excellence in all of these areas. In addition, companies can benefit both the Socio-Economic Development and Skills Development elements of their B-BBEE status under the Revised Codes of Good Practice as funds received will be ring-fenced for this purpose.

"The issues faced by business and society are issues that should be solved during the formative educational years. Our strategic partnerships with Business are creating opportunities to grow a truly transformed and uplifted South Africa. Business and Education share a common dialogue – our partnerships with Business will bring this conversation into one space," says Mike Thiel, Executive Headmaster at *St David's Marist Inanda*.

"Education is a fundamental right for each and every citizen of the world no matter how poor or rich. At the JSE, making an impact in the lives of those less fortunate through social development is at the heart of what makes us tick. Our contributions to initiatives that drive education, such as our *Investment Challenge* now in its 44th year which as well as protecting the environment and health is how we are making a difference in the lives of others. It is crucial for business to partner with both schools, government to ensure that our leaders of tomorrow receive the education that they deserve," says Nicky Newton-King, CEO of the JSE.

The JSE's *Investment Challenge*, an annual competition, is aimed at school learners as well as university students and is South Africa's largest financial literacy initiative.

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ABOUT JSE

The Johannesburg Stock Exchange is based in South Africa where it has operated as a market place for the trading of financial products for 130 years. It connects buyers and sellers in equity, derivative and debt markets. The JSE is one of the top 20 exchanges in the world in terms of market capitalisation and is a member of the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE). The JSE offers a fully electronic, efficient, secure market with world class regulation, trading and clearing systems, settlement assurance and risk management. www.jse.co.za

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