

NASCEE ROUND UP

21/08/2026

WELCOME TO THE NASCEE ROUND UP

Welcome to this edition of the NASCEE Round Up, your fortnightly source for the latest news, insights, events and opportunities from across South Africa's education ecosystem.

In this edition, we celebrate NASCEE members recognised among the Mail & Guardian's 200 Young South Africans 2026, look ahead to the Gauteng Regional Networking Event and its focus on turning reading data into action, and share an important conversation on Mother Tongue-Based Bilingual Education. Plus, explore upcoming NASCEE and partner events, learning opportunities and more on our Community Notice Board.

Dive in, stay connected and see what's happening across the education ecosystem.

Community Notice Board

See on last page

BECOME A MEMBER



www.nascee.org.za



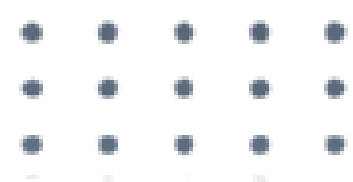
NASCEE



NASCEESA



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Celebrating NASCEE Members Among M&G's 200 Young South Africans 2026



Bokang Mokoena
*Founder & Executive Director,
Phakamani Young Minds Academy
(PYMA)*

We are proud to spotlight Bokang Mokoena, Executive Director and co-founder of Phakamani Young Minds Academy (PYMA), a NASCEE member organisation, who has been recognised among the Mail & Guardian's 200 Young South Africans 2026.

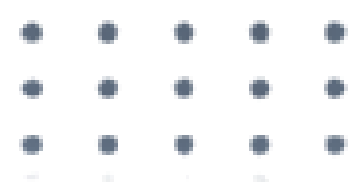
Bokang co-founded PYMA at just 19, driven by the belief that creating opportunities for young people can contribute to transforming entire communities. More than a decade later, he continues to lead the organisation's growth and impact, advancing programmes focused on education, youth employability and early childhood development in underserved communities.

His work reflects the power of purposeful leadership, collaboration and a sustained commitment to creating opportunities for others. We are delighted to see a leader from the NASCEE network recognised for his contribution to South Africa's civil society sector.

Congratulations, Bokang!

[Read Bokang Mokoena's full M&G 200 Young South Africans profile](#)





Mcebisi Kunene

*Special Projects & MERL Coordinator,
Trevor Noah Foundation*

We are proud to celebrate Mcebisi Kunene, Special Projects and MERL Coordinator at the Trevor Noah Foundation, a NASCEE member organisation, on being named one of the Mail & Guardian's 200 Young South Africans 2026.

Mcebisi is advancing sustainable, community-led approaches to education while connecting young people to opportunities in higher education, entrepreneurship and employment.

Congratulations, Mcebisi!

[Read more about Mcebisi's journey.](#)

Savannah Cozzi

*Chief Executive Officer, Socially Gathering,
Executive Director, Education Outreach
Foundation*

We are proud to celebrate Savannah Cozzi, Executive Director of the Education Outreach Foundation, a NASCEE member organisation, on being recognised among the Mail & Guardian's 200 Young South Africans 2026.

Savannah is passionate about expanding opportunities for women and young people, using connection, collaboration and community-building to create meaningful pathways for growth.

Congratulations, Savannah!

[Read more about Savannah's journey.](#)





NASCEE Gauteng Regional Networking Event

Turning Reading Data into Action for Better Literacy Outcomes

How do we turn reading data into better outcomes for learners?

NASCEE, in partnership with VVOB Education for Development and Kagiso Trust, is bringing the education ecosystem together for the Gauteng Regional Networking Event, an afternoon of connection, practical learning and collaboration.

Under the theme Strengthening the Use of Reading Data for Improved Literacy Outcomes, government, civil society, practitioners, researchers and implementing partners will come together to explore how data can move beyond reports and dashboards to drive meaningful action in literacy.

Participants will unpack practical examples of data-driven decision-making, explore how different sources of reading data can strengthen planning and implementation, and share lessons on turning evidence into action.

The event will also spotlight emerging research in early grade reading, practical approaches to building effective reading data pipelines and opportunities to better align literacy initiatives with provincial priorities.

Meet the Speakers

We are excited to welcome a strong line-up of education leaders, data specialists, researchers and sector practitioners to the conversation. Joining us are Davina Murphy of NASCEE, Khodani Makatu of New Leaders Foundation, Joshua Engelbrecht of JET Education Services, Sahar Mohy-Ud-Din of VVOB Education for Development, Giles Gillet of NASCEE and Gerrit Coetzee of VVOB Education for Development. Together, they bring a wealth of expertise across education data, research, monitoring and evaluation, innovation and partnerships, setting the stage for an insightful and action-oriented conversation on strengthening literacy outcomes through data and collaboration.

NASCEE will also showcase how NED Connect can help organisations discover who is working where, build stronger connections and enable more strategic, data-informed collaboration across the education ecosystem.

Come ready to connect, learn and collaborate:

- Discover practical ways to turn reading data into action
- Learn from real-world literacy initiatives and emerging evidence
- Explore opportunities to collaborate with government and sector partners
- Strengthen alignment with provincial education priorities
- Connect with others committed to improving reading outcomes

Event Details

Date: Tuesday, 25 August 2026

Time: 12:00 to 15:00

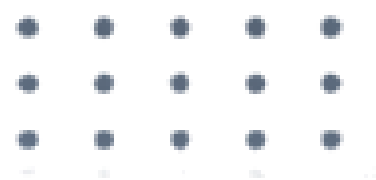
Venue: ANEW Hotel Hatfield, 1054 Burnett Street, Hatfield, Pretoria

[Click here to register.](#)

If your organisation is working to strengthen literacy and improve learner outcomes in Gauteng, this is a conversation you'll want to be part of.

Let's connect the data, people and ideas needed to strengthen reading outcomes across Gauteng.





Unlocking Learner Potential Through Language

What role can language play in unlocking every learner's potential?

The Matthew Goniwe School of Leadership and Governance (MGSLG) is bringing education stakeholders together for an important conversation on Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education (MTbBE).

Taking place on 26 August 2026, the webinar will explore the theme "Unlocking Learner Potential Through Language: Dialogues on the Breakthroughs, Challenges and Future of MTbBE."

The conversation will provide a platform to reflect on the experiences, challenges and breakthroughs emerging from Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education, while exploring what these lessons could mean for the future of teaching and learning.

Meet the Speakers

The webinar brings together voices from across the education ecosystem, including Dr Brian Ramadiro, Literacy Director at the Nelson Mandela Institute for Education and Rural Development; Dr Nicholas Molefe, Chief Education Specialist at the Gauteng Department of Education; Mr Joseph Mhlongo, Chairperson of the School Governing Body at P.S Tsosane Primary School; Ms Nozipho Xulu, Senior Project Manager at MGSLG; and Mr Sipho Dlamini, Chief of Programmes at MGSLG.

Together, they will contribute perspectives from literacy, education leadership, government, schools and programme implementation, creating space for a rich conversation about language and its role in learner development.

Join the Conversation

For education practitioners, organisations and stakeholders interested in literacy, multilingual education, curriculum and learner outcomes, this webinar offers an opportunity to engage with an increasingly important conversation about the future of education.

Date: Wednesday, 26 August 2026

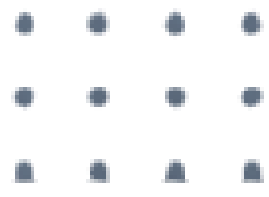
Time: 14:00 to 15:30

Platform: Microsoft Teams

Join MGSLG and fellow education stakeholders as they explore the breakthroughs, challenges and possibilities of Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education.

The graphic features the Matthew Goniwe School of Leadership and Governance logo, the date 26 AUGUST 2026, and the time 14h00 – 15h30. It includes a 'VIRTUAL THROUGH MS TEAMS' badge and the title 'MOTHER TONGUE – BASED Education Webinar 2026'. Five speakers are listed with their photos and titles: Dr. Brian Ramadiro (Literacy Director), Dr. Nicholas Molefe (Chief Education Specialist), Mr. Joseph Mhlongo (Chairperson of the School Governing Body), Ms. Nozipho Xulu (Senior Project Manager), and Mr. Sipho Dlamini (Chief of Programmes). The theme is 'Unlocking Learner Potential Through Language: Dialogues on the Breakthroughs, Challenges and Future of MTbBE'. A QR code and a 'REGISTER NOW' button are also present. The languages listed at the bottom are Xhosa, Zulu, Sepedi, Tswana, Southern Sotho, Tsonga, Swazi, Venda, Southern Ndebele, English, and Afrikaans.





Community Notice Board

Upcoming NASCEE Events

Tuesdays in the Trenches Series

Strengthening Matric Support Through Collaboration

Episode 9 25 August 2026

Regional Networking Events

Gauteng 25 August 2026

Upcoming Partner Events

Digital Inclusion Summit South Africa 2026

Sandton, Johannesburg 9 September 2026

[Click here to register](#)

The 21st Annual LITASA Conference

Johannesburg 4-6 September 2026

[Click here to find out more](#)

BECOME A MEMBER

Opportunities

The Instructional Leadership Institute – The Future Fund

A nationwide campaign inviting South Africans to contribute R10 per month to support the development of future school leaders. This initiative helps equip emerging leaders with instructional skills to improve teaching and learning across schools.

[Click here for more information](#)

researchED South Africa 2026

Exploring what makes great teaching & learning. Designed for teachers, school leaders, and those who work with them.

(NASCEE members: Keep an eye on your inbox for an exclusive member discount available for a limited time.)

Bishops College, Cape Town 12 September 2026

[Click here to buy your ticket.](#)

Matthew Goniwe School of Leadership and Governance Webinar

Unlocking Learner Potential Through Language

Microsoft Teams 26 August 2026

[Click here to register](#)

Humentum Webinar

Demonstrating Impact When Change Is Hard to Measure

Online 1 September 2026

[Click here to register](#)

