



Thales CEO Justice Tootla, Khayelitsha achievers Zikhona Mcweba, Liso Nyandu and Esihle Vellem with Community Chest CEO Lorenzo Davids.

PHOTO: MANDLA MAHASHE

Achieving learners offered well-deserved bursaries

MANDLA MAHASHE

Hard working learners from Khayelitsha and Bluedowns were rewarded for their diligence on Thursday night.

The Western Cape Community Chest along with side Thales, held a formal Bursary Award Ceremony where six of the new beneficiaries were celebrated. Thales Group is a French multinational company that designs and builds electrical systems and provides services for the aerospace, defence, transportation and security markets.

They officially awarded six beneficiaries for 2017, these are last year matriculants that excelled in Maths, Science and Technology.

This is part of the 5 year education-focused project Fast Tracking Pathways to Success that assists local disadvantaged students through Maths, Science and Technology bursaries is celebrating its annual awards ceremony.

Last year saw six bursaries – that help students gain entry into tertiary institutions – being awarded. This year a further six will receive bursaries to the value of R 100 000 each.

Top achievers were selected from six high schools from Khayelitsha and Blue Downs namely schools Khanyolwethu High School, Kleinlei High School, Forests Heights High School, Joe Slovo High School, Sizimisele

High School, and Malibu High School.

Community Chest CEO Lorenzo Davids encouraged the beneficiaries to take full advantage of the opportunity they have been given.

“Tonight is a night of celebration and we are celebrating these young people that have worked hard. Young people, who’ll build a proud legacy for South Africa,” he said.

While Thales CEO Justice Tootla encourage the learners to stick to their goals as they were not the only ones who are struggling.

“When I came to study at the University of Cape Town from Johannesburg my father gave me R700. That was all he could afford but I endured and stuck to my studies. I worked hard until I was where I am today. Education gives life and we need to give opportunities and help build,” he said.

Zikhona Mcweba from Sizimisele High School said that she was grateful to have received the funding as it has helped her. She is currently studying Civil Engineering at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

“The shift from high school life to varsity life has been a bit difficult but I am happy to have received this support because I can focus on my studies and not worry whether or not fees have been paid,” she said.