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- As from January 2006 all provinces implemented the National Curriculum Statements (NCS) Grade 10.
- The Mathematics, Science and Technology Strategy has been expanded to include 400 Dinaledi Schools.
- A catalogue of grade 11 textbooks has been compiled for selection of textbooks by schools. The Grade 11 national textbook catalogue was finalized



- Improving learner attainment
- The Senior Certificate Examinations were administered and conducted successfully and a report released on 29 December 2005.
- The Most Improved School Awards ceremony which aims to encourage schools was held in March 2006.



- *** FET Colleges**
- Policy for the National Certificate (Vocational) gazetted
- * 13 priority skills programmes developed for Colleges
 - Construction, Engineering, Business, ICT and Hospitality
- Conditional Grants for the recapitalisation of the 50 Further Education and Training Colleges allocated against plans developed by Colleges, to support:
 - Infrastructure and facilities development
 - ICTs and
 - Staff development (R10 000 bursaries)



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- Consolidation of the Restructuring Process
- In June 2005, the restructuring of the higher education system through mergers and incorporations was formally completed with the establishment of the Walter Sisulu University of Science and Technology, Eastern Cape.
- Substantive councils are now in place at all the newly established higher education institutions
- ★ Vice Chancellors appointed in most institutions
- Merging of administrative and management policies and processes is also well underway at most of the institutions which are now turning their attention to the restructuring of the academic arrangements.



- **** Consolidation of the Restructuring Process**
- The Department has provided on-going technical support and assistance to institutions to facilitate the restructuring process.
- Financial support of R419 million was allocated for the financial year to institutions to support direct merger costs and for much needed capital renewal,
- For improvement of student residences, R36 million was allocated to Tshwane University of Technology, R30 million to the University of Fort Hare, and R30 million to the North-West University.



- Finalisation of new Statutory Minimum Requirements to Higher Education
- The new schools curriculum for grades 10 12 was introduced in January 2005. The first cohort of learners following the RNCS will write the National Senior Certificate in 2008. This has necessitated the adoption of new minimum entry requirements into higher education
- These new requirements were developed in collaboration with the higher education sector and were gazetted by the Minister of Education in August 2005, in time to inform learners in the selection of their school subjects for the new curriculum.



- * National Conference on African Studies
- The Ministry of Education hosted a highly successful conference to explore the status of African Studies in South African universities.
- The conference was attended by local, continental and international academics.
- A working group of conference participants was established to pursue the curricula challenges identified in the conference deliberations.



- Higher Education Aids Programme (HEAIDS)
- The European Union provided a generous grant to the Department of Education to establish a programme in the higher education Sector to address the challenges of the HIV and AIDS pandemic in the sector.
- The HEAIDS programme is managed on behalf of the Department by Higher Education South Africa, HESA, the newly established umbrella body of vice-chancellors



- * The South African Union of Students (SAUS)
- The Department of Education provided technical support and advice for the establishment of SAUS, which was launched early in 2006.
- SAUS brings together the Student Representative Councils (SRCs) of all Universities and Universities of Technology in a single body, which will represent the interests of students nationally and internationally.

