

## NYANGA STRATEGIC PLANNING WEEKEND 2013

23- 24 MARCH



The 2013 Nyanga SPW was held at Zolani Centre on the 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2013. Nyanga learner turnout was impressive, with more than half the learners present on the first day, and a smaller, albeit satisfactory number coming on the second and final day. The group then elected the 2013 branch committee (branch com), made up of committed learners, volunteers and the Nyanga staff members.

### **Nyanga Branch committee**

Branch co-ordinator	Shuvai Finos
Branch Assistant	Siphelele Madubela
Alumni coordination	Sizwe Peter, Nosipho Bele
Career Guidance & Mentoring	Nosipho Bele, Fezile Ntenqa
Computer and Khan Academy	Litha Sabo, Sesethu Sobhoyisi
Health and Life skills	Miranda Mzamka, Ntsika Kuhlane
Media, Image & Expression	Nelisa Ngqulana, Asive Mangesana, Emihle Mkoko
Tutoring	Siyabulela Kunelisi, Azande Gibi
Volunteer co-ordination	Hlumisa Gxowa, Yanga Kamteni

### **Learner representatives**

Grade 8	Nonsikelelo Thala, Onikwa Malimke
Grade 9:	Miranda Mzamka, Simbulele Lunguza
Grade 10:	Sinobom Ngubombi, Ntobeko Fokazi
Grade 11:	Nobulali Swaartbooi, Dominic Ntobongwana
Grade 12:	Sihle Sosanti, Mzukisi Gwegwe



NYANGA BRANCH COMMITTEE 2013



## 1. DAY ONE: SATURDAY

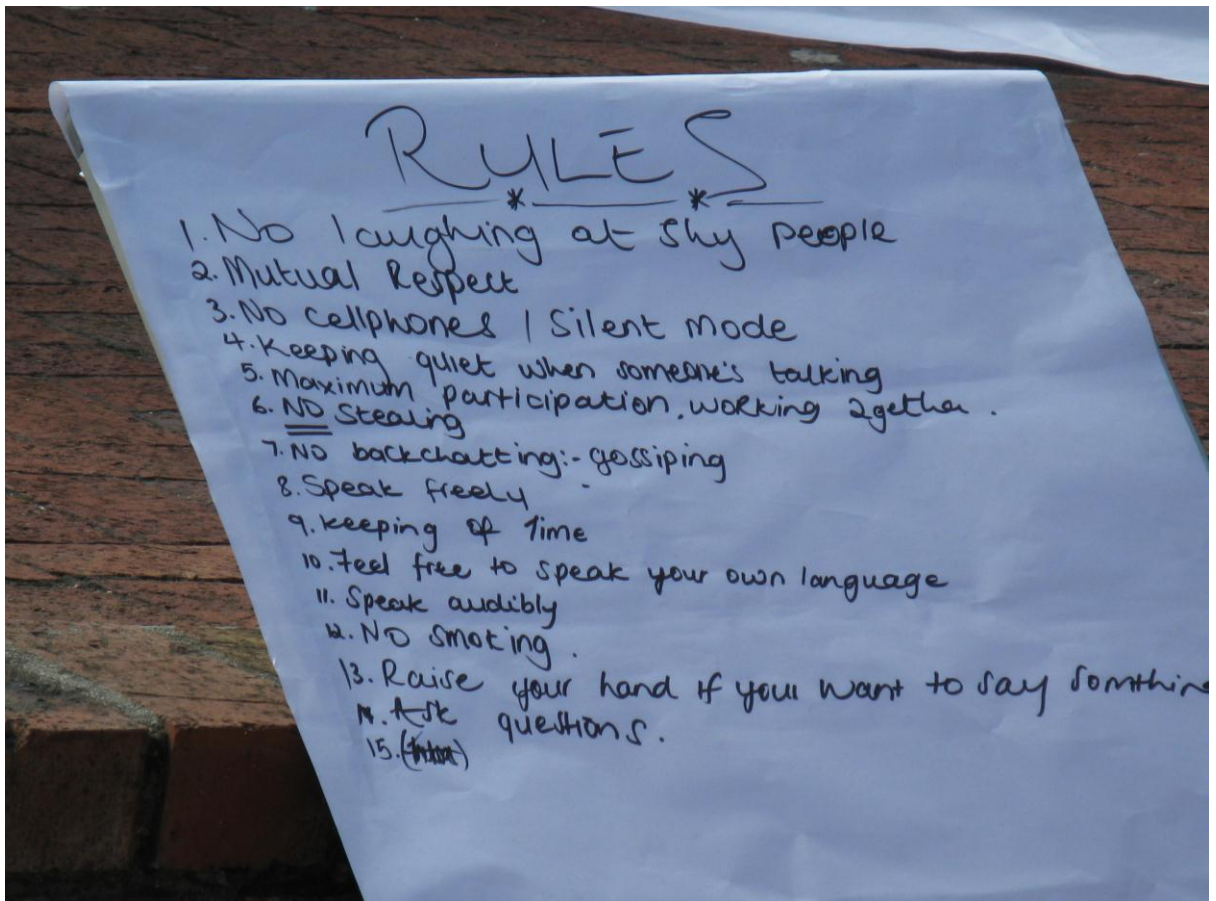
### 1.1. Intro and Welcome

Shuvai welcomed the group everyone introduced themselves briefly, sharing their expectations for the weekend and what they were going to contribute. Afterwards, she introduced the SPW, explaining its aims and what the weekend would cover.

### 1.2. Rules for the weekend

Sipelele led the group in laying out the rules the group would operate by, during the entire weekend. These are some of the rules the group agreed on:

- Communication to be in the language the speaker feels most comfortable
- Cell phones to be kept on silent
- Respect for one another
- Maximum cooperation
- No laughing at each other



### 1.3. History of Nyanga branch

Liesel (WC District co-ordinator) led the group through the timeline/history exercise, where everyone wrote down what they remember from each month of the year since January 2011. The longest serving members of Nyanga branch shared their memories from 2011 and everyone else did their part, filling in what they remember from the time they joined, however recent. Xola Boo, who has been at the branch since 2010, first as a learner and now as a volunteer, then took the entire group over the timeline, speaking about all that happened since 2011.



PART OF THE NYANGA BRANCH TIMELINE AS REMEMBERED BY NYANGANITES

## 2. ISSUES TO ADDRESS

After reminiscing on the history of the branch, the group got to work, identifying key areas which need work, for the branch to function optimally. The exercise culminated the team tackling 4 broad interest areas, namely governance, tutoring, learning & attendance, and 'other important'.

The table below summarises what each group discussed under each of the interest areas

*Table 2.1*

*Challenges currently facing Nyanga branch and how to address them*

<b>Area</b>	<b>Challenge/s</b>	<b>How to address</b>
Academic performance of learners	Low termly marks	Learners to get mentors with the aid of Career Guidance portfolio, who can help track attendance Study times should focus on weaker subjects
Learner conduct	Noise making Unauthorised use of lab Late coming Attendance	Learner reps to monitor Tutors to monitor lab activities Communication and reporting timeously Make sure everyone knows the consequences
Learner motivation	Peer pressure Low self esteem Laziness Parental substance abuse Lack of discipline at home	Find new friends, e.g. at Ikamva Read motivational books Time management skills e.g. timetable Speaking openly about challenges Seek support from e.g school, IY

Program queries	Learners not understanding the importance of Operation Fikelela	Explanation given to learners whenever new program is introduced
Resources and materials	<p>Tutor shortage</p> <p>Small tutoring space</p> <p>Shortage of desks</p> <p>Answer series shortage</p> <p>Damaged computers</p> <p>Computer access</p> <p>Cold during winter months</p>	<p>Each tutor to bring a friend for tutoring</p> <p>Each learner to bring a friend who has passed Matric, to help with tutoring</p> <p>Advertising on Facebook</p> <p>Can utilise New Eisleben school hall</p> <p>Ask for donations from nearby schools</p> <p>Secure more books</p> <p>Repairs within 2weeks of breakage</p> <p>Timetable for when each grade uses the lab</p> <p>Buy heaters</p>
Transport and safety	<p>Robbery</p> <p>Walking long distances for tutoring</p> <p>Bad weather</p>	<p>Walk in groups to and from tutoring</p> <p>Leave phones and other valuables at home</p> <p>Parents to provide transport money as agreed on in application forms</p> <p>Wear raincoats, use umbrellas</p>



BRAINSTORMING ABOUT SOLUTIONS TO CURRENT CHALLENGES



### **3. PORTFOLIOS AND GOALS**

#### **3.1. Actions for Nyanganites**

Nyanganites at the SPW also discussed the different portfolios responsible for the implementation of Ikamva's 7 core programs with the learners. Each group discussed one portfolio and then presented to the bigger group during the feedback session.

##### **Alumni portfolio**

Action items

- Head of portfolio to work in collaboration with Makhaza alumni portfolio to organise Nyanga alumni

##### **Career guidance and mentoring**

Action items

- Expose Ikamvanites to career exhibitions from the 2<sup>nd</sup> term onwards
- Participate in UWC buddy day in September
- Arrange job shadowing for learners between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> terms
- Kick start mentorship program, especially for grade 12s, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> term
- Attend all WC university Open Days in the 2<sup>nd</sup> term

##### **Computer and Khan Academy**

Action items

- Head of portfolio to set penalties for breaking lab rules in collaboration with branch com at first branch com meeting of the year
- Get a second tutor for Khan Academy by second week of term 2
- Ask for help with computers from present tutors on tutoring days
- Learner reps and tutoring rep to communicate to their groups at the beginning of 2<sup>nd</sup> term
- Roll out Operation Fikelela to all grades, from Winter school onwards

##### **Health and life skills**

Action items

- Workshops every term, with first one being done by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the 2<sup>nd</sup> term
- HIV testing to be done twice a year, starting at Winter School

- Eye testing at Winter School or in September
- Start an exercise program by the end of April

### **Media, Image and Expression**

#### Action items

- Learn how to play new musical instruments on Wednesdays and arrange concert each term
- Art, painting, graphic design to be done on Saturdays
- Start poetry group and newspaper (IY news) and publish once a term
- Teach dancing e.g ballet, tap on Fridays, starting in the 2<sup>nd</sup> term
- Assist with Vision 2030 concert at the end of the year

### **Tutoring**

#### Action items

- Collaborate with volunteer coordinators to have 1:5 tutor:learner ratios by 3<sup>rd</sup> week of 2<sup>nd</sup> term
- Conduct mock exams in preparation for June and September exams  
2<sup>nd</sup> term exams start 2<sup>nd</sup> week of May
- Tutors to use Ikamva material more effectively, especially at Saturday sessions
- Arrange tutor meetings once every term, from the 2<sup>nd</sup> term onwards

### **Volunteer coordination**

#### Action items

- Ask each tutor to bring a friend for tutoring everytime they come. Monitor that this happens
- Have a timetable for tutors so that they commit to certain days and keep that commitment
- Volunteer meetings once a term to make sure volunteer concerns are heard and addressed
- Use of social media to recruit volunteers



A GREAT END TO A SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIC SESSION!