



## **Excellence in Secondary School Leadership**

Nominee: **Ms Wendy Horn**

School: **Protea Heights Academy**

Cluster: **Metro North and Metro East**

District: **Metro East Education District**

Ms Wendy Horn started her teaching journey in 1992 at Parktown High School for Girls. In June 1994, she progressed to and accepted a post at The Settlers High School where she was the Departmental Head for Mathematics, Physical Science and Technology for Grades 8 to 12. She was later promoted to Deputy Principal at the same school. She established herself as an educator of note who displayed and continues to display tenacity and rigor in the teaching of Science and Technology.

In October 2014, Ms Horn was appointed as the founding principal of Protea Heights Academy, responsible for establishing a newly built school and ensuring readiness to start teaching and learning to learners as from the first day of school in January 2015. This entailed putting all measures in place for the management and governance of the school.

The school's shared vision is to provide globally superior education, focusing on Mathematics and Science supported by advanced technology, in pursuance of well-balanced learners who will make a positive impact on the community. The school envisions catering for learners who have an interest in coding, programming, information technology, engineering and commerce. Ms Horn actively promotes the use of information and communication technology (ICT) and eLearning. Learners are supported emotionally, physically and mentally, and the skills required in preparation of the Fourth Industrial Revolution are developed. To this end, all aspects of teaching and learning, strategic planning and administration of the school are supported.

Ms Horn maintains high standards of performance at the school and ensures that the academic outcomes for the year are met so that learners are prepared for success in tertiary education. This goal is achieved through structured monitoring and moderation. Comprehensive and up-to-date records of a high standard are kept.

Staff training, mentoring, support and guidance are conducted in such a manner that teachers are encouraged to do more. Teachers experience a wealth of training to support their teaching and growth. Ms Horn inspires colleagues and engenders trust.

A wide variety of extramural and co-curricular activities are offered at the school, thus catering for the diverse interests of the learners and ensuring the education of the whole child.

Ms Horn is a leader par excellence who has achieved top awards such as Top 50 Global Teacher Award Finalist and the 2013 National Teaching Awards winner for Excellence in Physical Science Teaching. She is also a member of the Varkey Teacher Ambassador Programme and is nominated as a worthy recipient of this coveted award.