2019 Leadership Excellence Award in After School Programming

Nominee: **Mr Andrew Groeneveld (Principal)**
School: **New Orleans Sekondêre Skool, Paarl, Cape Winelands**

Mr. Groeneveld has been at the school for over 20 years. For 20 years, he served as the Deputy Principal at the school and as of 2018, he was appointed as the principal of the school. He notes that with the appointment as Principal comes many challenges but that the reward truly overshadows it all. Many of the youth in Paarl face challenges and Mr. Groeneveld holds inclusive education with high esteem as it is his wish that each and every learner matriculates from Grade 12 with characteristics that will make a positive contribution to society.

There is a lively culture of After School Programmes at the school that Mr. Groeneveld implemented at the school in partnership with many stakeholders. A forerunner for community engagement, Mr. Groeneveld reaches out to the community at grassroots levels as part of the school's ethos.

Not only does he display strong leadership for the learners', he is an excellent leader for his staff. When it comes to his staff, Mr. Groeneveld is invested in cultivating personal connections. He endeavors to listen to staff members and recognizes each staffs journey. His staff raves about how he treats them beyond colleagues but as people. He refers to his staff as special people because he notes that it takes heart to be an educator and an ever bigger heart to be able to change the vision of a child.