



PRESS RELEASE

**LOBATSE SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL WINS THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BOTSWANA STOCK EXCHANGE (BSE) SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS FINANCE & INVESTMENT COMPETITION 2019**

**For Immediate Release, 20<sup>TH</sup> August, 2019:** It is with great delight that we announce that Lobatse Senior Secondary School has won this year's Botswana Stock Exchange (BSE) 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Secondary Schools Finance & Investment Competition 2019 that was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 at Travelodge in Gaborone. This achievement represented a third consecutive win for the school and brought their total tally of trophy wins to four (4) since the inception of the Competition in 2013. This year's participating schools were Lobatse Senior Secondary School, Goodhope Senior Secondary School, Naledi Senior Secondary School, The Learning Centre School, Letlhakane Senior Secondary School, Selebi Phikwe Senior Secondary School, Maru-a-Pula, Legae Academy, Crescent School and Francistown Senior Secondary School. The ten (10) shortlisted schools were selected from over thirty (30) submissions that were received from private and public senior secondary schools across the country.

From the participating schools, Francistown Senior Secondary School were the runners-up in second (2<sup>nd</sup>) position, Letlhakane Senior Secondary School finished in third (3<sup>rd</sup>) place and Crescent School in fourth (4<sup>th</sup>). The students of the four (4) schools will be able to 'kickstart' their investment portfolio as they were awarded share vouchers worth the value of P29,000.00 in total. The students of the 1<sup>st</sup> placed school will walk away with share vouchers worth P2,500.00 each, 2<sup>nd</sup> place with P1,500.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> place P1,000.00 and the students of the 4<sup>th</sup> placed school will receive share vouchers worth P800.00 each.

The BSE established the Senior Secondary Schools Finance & Investment Competition in 2013 to raise awareness about capital markets, with the long-term view of cultivating a culture of investing to encourage youth participation in the stock market. This annual competition, which is open to all senior secondary schools in Botswana, also assists in providing the student community with an in-depth insight into the importance of future financial planning and it serves to educate the students on how they can utilise the stock market as an investment avenue.

Commenting on this year's Competition, the BSE CEO Mr. Thapelo Tsheole said, ***"The spirit of competition and the desire to learn about the complex financial environment we live in is what makes this Competition so special. Its popularity has grown significantly amongst the secondary school student community since inception, and this is attributed to the fact that it avails the BSE the perfect platform to sensitise students on matters relating to finance & investment at a grass root level in preparation for life after school. As an initiative that was awarded the Best Educational Initiative in Africa by SRP earlier this year,***

*the Competition is a true testament of how passionate we are in driving the national agenda and tackling issues of financial literacy and inclusion in Botswana. Let me once again congratulate and commend Lobatse Senior Secondary School who have triumphed in this Competition a record-breaking four (4) times and the three (3) runner-ups in this year's Competition. This is an indication of the due diligence that is undertaken by the teachers to prepare the students for this educational competition every year. We recognize and applaud you."*

**For more information, contact:**

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