

Rest in Peace Winnie Madikizela-Mandela

Waterford Kamhlaba United World College of Southern Africa is deeply saddened by the news of the passing away of *mama* Nomzamo Winifred Madikizela-Mandela. Your family is in our hearts and minds at this moment. We join the rest of the world in mourning this loss because we are aware that Winnie Mandela's motherhood did not only end at home but also extended to the rest of South African society and beyond. Being the symbol of unity and the leader that she was, we are confident that her rich legacy will challenge the young generation of Africa to take their rightful place in the transformation of the continent.

Her principled activism saw her endure the brutality of the apartheid regime and face the hazards of the struggle; detention without trial (which included prolonged periods of torture), banning, banishment and continued harassment by the security police. As a determined fighter, she persevered until the end, and her values are consistent with those of the UWC movement in general and Waterford Kamhlaba in particular. As you might know, the school was established in clear and expressed opposition to the South African Apartheid regime and its laws of racial segregation.

Most of all, the school played a small yet significant role in the struggle for racial equality in South Africa, including educating the children of Winnie and Nelson Mandela at the height of apartheid oppression in the 1970s: the elder daughter, Her Royal Highness Princess Zenani Mandela-Dlamini (current South African Ambassador to Argentina) and Zindiswa Mandela-Hlongwane (current South African Ambassador to Denmark).

Our sincere condolences to the family, our South African Waterford community (both past and present) and all who mourn the passing of a giant in the struggle against apartheid.

Hamba kahle mama Winnie Mandela.

Stephen Lowry
Principal
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