## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## RURAL EDUCATION STRATEGY FOR THE 2003-2004 SCHOOL YEAR

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board was allocated approximately \$842,347 of new funding for this Ministry initiative.

Funds were used for the following purposes:

- To ensure adult presence in every school with full-time school principals and school secretaries in all our rural schools.
- To ensure that there are as few split grades as possible.
- The Board has implemented full-time Junior Kindergarten and continue to offer full-time Senior Kindergarten in all schools.
- French Immersion in some of our schools at the JK to Grade 3 levels.
- Music programs offered in all schools.
- Funds were also allocated to keep the schools in good repair as well as safe and clean.

These funds will ensure that these schools can offer the same services and resources as those in our larger communities. The additional monies will give small communities the opportunity to keep their schools open, ensure that they are clean, safe and in good repair while giving the students the support and resources they need.

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