## **CATHOLIC BOARD AND OECTA (Northeastern Unit) REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT**

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board and the Northeastern Unit of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association have reached a tentative agreement until August 31, 2008.

Both parties had ratified a two-year agreement earlier this year, ensuring the continuation of program delivery in our Catholic schools.

Since then, the Ministry of Education has set new provincial policy that will provide benefits to Catholic boards in the form of new funding for elementary specialty teachers, student success leaders and other enhancements. In order to qualify for this funding, boards are required to reach four-year agreements with their teachers.

In light of these new provisions, both parties agreed to return to the table to negotiate a new collective agreement which includes a third and fourth year. This modification would allow us to be compliant with the Ministry requirements and to take advantage of the additional funding which will maximize learning opportunities for our students.

Both parties are pleased to have a tentative agreement in place by the June 15<sup>th</sup> conditional deadline set by the Ministry.

The specific terms of the agreement will be made public after ratification by the parties.

For more information, please contact:

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