



# PRESS RELEASE

## Teacher Learning and Leadership Program Funding Approved!

**May, 2008:** Beverly Montminy, Grades One/Two Teacher at **Holy Family School** in Englehart, is excited about a new initiative by the Ministry of Education – the Teacher Learning and Leadership Program (TLLP). This program was created in order to give teachers an opportunity to develop action research projects in an area in which they are interested. Mrs. Montminy was recently granted funding to develop a project to implement balanced mathematics in the primary classroom for the **Northeastern Catholic District School Board**.



The TLLP was designed as an opportunity for teachers to extend their learning and share their expertise, with the ultimate goal of improving student achievement. The projects must include 3 components;

- ✓ professional learning that is to take place during the time of the project;
- ✓ leadership development as a result of the project; and,
- ✓ the exchange of knowledge that will happen once the project is completed.

For this first cohort, in Ontario, 310 projects were submitted to school boards, 110 were submitted to the ministry, and 83 projects were accepted into the project. The projects approved for funding include; technology, individual subject areas, the needs of aboriginal students, and differentiated instruction.

Beverly's project consists of investing time to read current math research, visit an exemplary math classroom within the province of Ontario, and attend the Ontario Association of Mathematics Educators annual conference. Through these actions, it is Mrs. Montminy's intent to build on her knowledge of how children develop mathematical concepts, and further develop long-range and unit plans as well as individual lesson plans that will ultimately allow her to provide a more comprehensive math program to students in the 2008-2009 school year.

"The first two days of my project have, to me, confirmed the research about teacher professional learning—and that is that when teachers are allowed to direct their own learning, they are invested personally and, as a result, are ready to commit to the learning journey."

The Ministry has put aside funding for this program to continue on an on-going basis. Interested teachers may apply for funding through TLLP.