



# PRESS RELEASE

## French Immersion Program Enhanced for September 2009

**Timmins, June, 2009:** The Northeastern Catholic District School Board will be enhancing their current French Immersion model for the 2009-2010 school year. As our French Immersion Catholic Schools open on August 31<sup>st</sup>, the total French instruction will increase from 50% to 90% in all Grade one classrooms across the Districts of Cochrane and Temiskaming.

The Board introduced the Accelerative Integrated Method "AIM" Language Learning Program board-wide four months ago and the response has been phenomenal. The program is delivered in a fun and interactive way for children to learn a second language. Visual prompts help the students remember words more readily as the physical actions associated with the word serve as a memory cue. This new innovative approach suits every learner while also addressing the needs of our students with exceptionalities.



Parents have been contacting the schools to say how thrilled they are with the development and growth they have witness in their children since the program began. Students are communicating with each other in French and that is reflected in the home environment as the children are sharing their learning with their families. The AIM program is helping Senior Kindergarten children process print faster to make them better readers. This is translating into better reading achievement and accelerated growth in writing. The AIM program, together with the enhanced French Immersion program will place a strong focus on oral language, which will allow our students to become fluent in French and to continue to develop the reading and writing skills vital to continued growth and success in school.

For more information regarding this program or how to register at one of our Catholic Schools for the 2009-2010 school year, please contact:

***Lynn Fecteau, Community Relations Officer***

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