



PRESS RELEASE

Northeastern Catholic DSB Welcomes its Fourteenth School

Timmins, September 28th, 2009: On September 1st, 2009, the Northeastern Catholic District School Board welcomed its fourteenth school – Bishop Belleau Catholic School - to its Catholic education family. The Ministry of Education announced in June that amalgamating the Moosonee Roman Catholic Separate School Board (English language unit) with our Board would be in the best interest of the students and staff of Bishop Belleau Catholic School in the hopes of sharing best practices, learning opportunities and resources. Bishop Belleau Catholic School is a Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 English language school with approximately 80 students. The staff of Bishop Belleau have been committed and focused on providing a peace-filled engaging learning environment respecting all cultures and Aboriginal heritage. The Administration staff and Board of Trustees of Northeastern Catholic District School Board are looking forward to working with the school community as this new relationship begins.



Rick Brassard, Chair of the Board of Trustees provided this statement: "On behalf of the Northeastern Catholic District School Board, I am pleased to announce that, as a result of amalgamation, Bishop Belleau Catholic School of Moosonee has become the

fourteenth member of our family of catholic schools. A heartfelt welcome goes out from our Board of Trustees to the students, the staff, the parents and to the English Catholic community of Moosonee as we work collaboratively to merge our two systems in order to provide the finest Catholic education possible for all of the students in our jurisdiction."

In addition to this new change, the Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Christine Allen to the position of Principal at Bishop Belleau Catholic School effective September 28th, 2009. Ms. Allen has been with the Bishop Belleau school community for a number of years and her experience and knowledge will be a definite asset during this transition period. Her philosophy of education is "to promote student understanding and achievement of the curriculum by teaching students Catholic morals and values that will enhance their everyday life. By fostering in students a love of learning they will be able to take their place among mainstream society with pride and confidence." Allens' qualifications include a Masters of Education degree from the University of Toronto, a Bachelor of Education degree and Bachelor of Arts degree from Nipissing University. Her additional qualifications include Special Education (Part 1, 2 & Specialist), Principal's Qualifications, Physical Education, Language and Speech, Reading Specialist and Teacher of Native Children all of which will drive her ability to serve her Catholic school community for years to come.

"We are pleased with the appointment of Christine Allen to the position of Principal at Bishop Belleau Separate School," added Glenn Sheculski, Director of Education for the Northeastern Catholic District School Board. "Christine comes well qualified to take on this role. She has been in the community for ten years and has a passion for teaching and working with children. We welcome her to our administration family."

For more information, please contact the Board office at (705)268-7443.