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NEWS RELEASE

Public Participation will lead to new Strategic Plan for NCDSB

Timmins, February 17, 2011:

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans." (Proverbs 16:3)

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board is undertaking a review of its operations to develop a strategic plan for the next four years. Rick Brassard, Chair of the Board of Trustees commented, "It is our intention to work directly with students, parents, staff members, and our Catholic stakeholders throughout this process to ensure their ideas, concerns and suggestions are understood and considered. Public participation will allow our new Strategic Plan to be fully encompassing and will allow the Northeastern Catholic District School Board to better serve the needs of today's learners in our Catholic schools."

The concept of Public Participation is not new, but builds on the traditional methods of consultation. Instead of just informing the public about what the NCDSB is doing, public feedback and participation are being welcomed. A full range of information-sharing concepts and methods will be used to ensure all of the public has an opportunity to participate in the development of the new strategic plan.

Glenn Sheculski, Director of Education stated that, "The timeline for the collection of information through in-depth interviews, an on-line survey and planned open house sessions is February and March, 2011. Senior Administration will then bring these findings to the Board of Trustees. We promise to post all on-line comments and interview responses on our web site. We expect in April to be able to publish some initial feedback/findings on this process as we journey towards a formal Strategic Plan being developed for the Board of Trustees. The comments from all of our stakeholders will shape the Strategic Plan that will guide the Northeastern Catholic District School Board over the next four years."

The NCDSB Strategic Plan on-line survey can be accessed from www.ncdsb.on.ca

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