



# PRESS RELEASE

## Catholic Schools Raise over \$34,400 for Mozambique

*Timmins, January 2009: In September 2008, the Northeastern Catholic District School Board issued a challenge to all students and staff members to raise funds to assist the missions of the Consolata Missionaries in Mozambique, Africa.*

*After months of activities and events, the Board is thrilled to announce that our schools and board staff surpassed the original goal of \$30,000 by raising over \$34,400. These funds will help translate bibles, missals and liturgical resources into the language of Xhitsuwa (sheet-swah), Xope (sho-pay), Bitonga and Chindow. After the burdens of colonial rule when Mozambique's native languages would have been marginalized, it is an honour for our school board to participate in this project that affirms the dignity of all people. As well, part of the funds would go towards the building of a church and church hall which will serve as a community center, an educational facility, women's co-operative and a medical center.*

*"The Mozambique Project has united our Catholic school communities in a way in which we recognize our Christian responsibility to others. Father Marco (from the Consolata Missionaries) inspired us to reach out to our brothers and sisters in Mozambique to help them in their spiritual needs. In keeping with our Board theme of "You Are The Light of The World" it has been wonderful to see how our staff and students have come to recognize how each of them can light*



*the world for others in their role as humanitarians and in the promotion of social justice for all." **Paul Toffanello, Director of Education***

Here are only a FEW examples as to how our Catholic school communities, throughout the districts of Cochrane and Temiskaming, have been collecting dollars for this wonderful initiative:

- ✓ Evening Auction
- ✓ Penny Drive
- ✓ Dress Down Fridays
- ✓ Candles for Mozambique Sale
- ✓ Pepperette Sale
- ✓ Skip-a-thon
- ✓ Hot Lunch Program (50 cents of every plate sold)
- ✓ School BBQ
- ✓ Buy a Bible Campaign
- ✓ Disco for Mozambique
- ✓ Craft Sale
- ✓ Hot Dog Sales
- ✓ Bake Sales
- ✓ Halloween Dance
- ✓ Chocolate Bar Sale
- ✓ T-Shirt sale
- ✓ Movie event
- ✓ 50's Day & Root Beer Float Fundraiser
- ✓ Fashion Show
- ✓ Candy grams
- ✓ Bubblegum Days
- ✓ Sale of rosaries (handmade by students)
- ✓ Bottle Drive
- ✓ Twice is Nice Toy Contest
- ✓ Pie Throwing Contest
- ✓ Beads for Bibles
- ✓ Tape the Principal to the Wall event
- ✓ Yard Sale
- ✓ Dance-A-Thon
- ✓ McLaren Drive

**Father Marco Bagnarol** had this message to share with the Northeastern Catholic District School Board community, *"Dear Staff and students of the Northeastern Catholic District School Board, the Mozambique Campaign has reached its' end and the response has been amazing and outstanding. There has been a flurry of activities going on in aid of the various projects that have been requested from Mozambique. Thanks to your renunciations and sacrifices many dreams will be coming true for the people of Mozambique. The campaign has been infectious because even schools in Toronto have joined in on the bandwagon and are now doing penny drives. It just goes to show that a little can go a long way. God bless you all for everything!"*

