



PRESS RELEASE

Director of Education Retires After 30 Years in Education

Timmins, January 20th, 2009: After 30 years in education, Paul Toffanello recently announced his plans to retire from his position as Director of Education for the Northeastern Catholic District School Board.



Mr. Toffanello has had an extensive career in education having taught in both the public and Catholic school systems at both the elementary and secondary levels. He served as Principal at O’Gorman High School, Timmins High & Vocational School and served as the Vice-Principal at Roland Michener Secondary School.

Mr. Toffanello has served the Northeastern Catholic District School Board for the past seven years in the roles of Superintendent of Education then and Director of Education. He has been a strong advocate for Catholic education and has committed many years developing strong leaders within our schools – leaders who have served as Superintendents, Principals and classroom Teachers. Mr. Toffanello’s dedication to training new leaders was clearly evident in his efforts to lead and instruct candidates in several Principals Qualification Programs for over the past ten years.

Throughout his career, Mr. Toffanello has practiced with a high degree of professionalism and integrity, and his ultimate goal was to keep the students in the schools at the center of all of the decisions made at the board level.

"I am proud of the work that I have accomplished throughout my career, and I look forward to the new journey and experiences that retirement will surely bring. I believe that Northeastern Catholic District School Board will continue to thrive as a leader in the province of Ontario, and I am humbled to have had the privilege of serving the students, parents and staff of the board over the past seven years."

Rick Brassard, Chair of the Board of Trustees, had this to add: "On behalf of the Northeastern Catholic DSB, I would like to congratulate our Director of Education, Paul Toffanello, for his thirty years of service to Catholic education and to wish him well in his upcoming retirement. Paul will be remembered by his colleagues for his passion around student achievement and for his dedication towards the Catholic school system at the district, provincial and national levels. The Board also recognizes and would like to thank him for the many leadership roles that he has played over the years during which he served as a Principal, Superintendent and Director of Education. We wish Paul good health and happiness during his retirement years."

Mr. Toffanello will remain with the board until the end of March at which time he has indicated he will "begin to redefine" himself and pursue other opportunities of growth. The board is currently engaged in the process of recruitment and selection of a new Director of Education.