



# Algoma District School Board

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## Director's Bulletin – 2008 02 13

### **To: Principals, Managers, Staff, Union and Federation Presidents**

Trustees and staff took to the road this month and held the Algoma District School Board's Regular Board Meeting of February 12, 2008 at the Elementary School in Hornepayne.

The public meeting began with special presentations by students and staff from the Hornepayne Elementary and Secondary Schools. Two Grade 7 students, who will compete later this month at a Festival competition in Hearst, performed a duet for the assembled Board members and guests. The Grade 5/6 class made a short anti-bullying presentation and two high school teachers outlined for the Board some details of the high school's Character Education initiatives, resources and approaches to bullying.

Other special guests in attendance included Mike Brown, MPP Algoma-Manitoulin and the Mayor of Hornepayne Gene Belanger.

Information and updates were then presented on a number of initiatives and programs.

### **1. ABORIGINAL WORKSHOP**

Superintendent Kime Collver along with Aboriginal Lead Teacher Carol Trudeau McEwen updated the Board on the Regional Aboriginal Symposium schedule to take place May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Hosted by Algoma District School Board, the symposium will take place in Sault Ste. Marie and invitations have been extended to regional school boards and school authorities. The focus is on educating our schools on Aboriginal culture, traditions and learning styles of our Aboriginal students. Two to three hundred delegates are expected to attend.

### **2. SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2008-2009**

System Administrator, Sergio Iacoe, outlined the proposed School Year Calendar for the 2008-2009 school year. The proposed calendar includes a 194 day school year made up of 188 instructional days and 6 professional activity days. School year begins on September 2, 2008 and ends on June 26, 2008.

## 2. SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2008-2009 - continued

Professional Activity days are scheduled for:

September 26, 2008	May 1, 2009
November 14, 2008	June 25, 2009
January 30, 2009	June 26, 2009

Holidays continue to include Labour Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Break, Mid Winter Break, Easter and Victoria Day and the new Family Day which falls on February 16, 2009.

## 3. DIRECTOR'S 2007 ANNUAL REPORT AND 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEARBOOK

Director of Education Mario Turco presented copies of the 2007 Director's Annual Report to individuals present at the meeting.

As 2008 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as an amalgamated board, Director Turco also presented a second publication – a 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Yearbook that provides a review of the 10 years ADBS has been an amalgamated board. The anniversary booklet looks back at the history the six school boards that came together during amalgamation in 1998. The intent is that the Anniversary Yearbook will act as an important archive of the history of our six predecessor boards: Hornepayne, Chapleau, Wawa, Sault Ste. Marie, Central Algoma and North Shore.

It will be provided to all public libraries in our district, as well as to all ADSB elementary and secondary schools. Director Turco acknowledged the Anniversary Yearbook in particular, was a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge our past, celebrate our present and build for the future. The Director's 2007 Annual Report will soon be on the website ([www.adsb.on.ca](http://www.adsb.on.ca)) and copies will be made available through all of our schools.

## 4. NEWS RELEASE FROM MPP MIKE BROWN – FUNDING FOR HORNEPAYNE

**MPP Mike Brown Announces \$8,044,916 to build a secondary extension onto current public elementary school in Hornepayne making new school JK - 12**

HORNEPAYNE, ON — Hornepayne's high school and elementary students will benefit from funding for the construction of a new school, Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Mike Brown announced today.

*"The provincial government is providing the necessary funding to build a secondary extension onto the current elementary public school creating a state-of-the-art school in Hornepayne,"* said Brown. *"This investment will support our community's students for generations to come by improving their learning environment and by providing a boost to the local economy through increased construction activity."*

#### 4. NEWS RELEASE FROM MPP MIKE BROWN – FUNDING FOR HORNEPAYNE-Cont'd

The Hornepayne High School, currently situated in the Hallmark Mall, has been leased. The lease ends after 30 years, in 2010.

***“The Ministry’s support of our Capital Plan is an investment in the future of our youth and our community. Their forward thinking is another indication how this government puts great value in providing the best education possible for our children. We want to express our sincere appreciation for the support of our plan by our Provincial Member of Parliament, MPP Mike Brown, our Minister of Education, Kathleen Wynne, our Premier, Dalton McGuinty and the Ministry staff,”*** said Mario Turco, Director of Education for the Algoma District School Board.

***“This is a good news story for our students, the community of Hornepayne and our province. Our Trustees, students, parents and community partners wish to commend our Board staff, Ministry staff and our Provincial Government Leaders whose ongoing collaboration is resulting in the development of a vision for northern communities like Hornepayne that ultimately will benefit students and society,”*** said Wanda McQueen, Chair of the Algoma District School Board.

The McGuinty government is supporting a \$700 million investment to build new schools or expand existing schools to replace facilities where renewal needs are almost as much as the cost of replacing the school. The funding is part of the government’s \$4 billion Good Places to Learn program to address renewal needs and new construction.

***“After many years of struggling to maintain schools, school boards are working closely with the government and their communities to revitalize our classrooms inside and out,”*** said Education Minister Kathleen Wynne. ***“This funding is part of this government’s ambitious four-year commitment to renew our schools and helps set the stage for ongoing improvements.”***

Building new or replacement schools means that more students will be able to learn in a clean safe, environment. The community will also enjoy economic benefits during the construction period.

This is the second such funding announcement benefiting the Algoma District School Board and is just one more example of how, working together, Ontarians have achieved results in public education.