

January 22, 2009

Ms. Wanda McQueen
Chair
Algoma District School Board
644 Albert Street East
Sault Ste. Marie, ON
P6A 2K7

Mr. Mario Turco
Director of Education
Algoma District School Board
644 Albert Street East
Sault Ste. Marie, ON
P6A 2K7

Dear Ms. McQueen and Mr. Turco,

I am pleased to provide you with the attached Operational Review Report for the Algoma District School Board.

The Ministry of Education strives to promote a strong, vibrant, publicly funded education system that is focused on three goals: improved levels of student achievement, reduced gaps in student achievement, and increased levels of public confidence in the education system. As part of the plan to achieve these goals, the ministry has been conducting operational reviews of school boards to help increase system effectiveness, efficiency, transparency, and responsiveness.

The objective of the operational reviews is to build management capacity in the stewardship of non-academic functions of school boards. The reviews focus on governance, financial management, human resource management, and school operations and assess each board's level of adoption of leading business practices.

As a follow up to the operational review initiative, and to promote continuous improvement in building capacity in school board operations, the review team will revisit your board in early 2010 to assess/update the status of the recommendations identified in this report.

In addition, the operational review process allows a reasonable amount of time for the Boards to address the question of sharing the report; however, the Ministry requirement is to produce a French-language version of the report and post both the English and French reports to the Branch website.

I would like to extend my appreciation to you and your staff for volunteering to participate in the 2008-09 Operational Reviews. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work, collaboration and preparation that went into the review and the value of your feedback in the debrief process.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the follow up visit, please contact Bill Coleman at (416) 212-3180, or bill.coleman@ontario.ca .

Thank you again for your contribution to this important initiative.

Sincerely,



Cheri Hayward
Director
School Business Support Branch

Enclosure

cc: Joseph Santa Maria, Senior Business Official, Algoma DSB