



Office of the Director of Education

November 13, 2008

Dear Catholic Community:

Thank you for all that you continue to do to support and build upon the many exceptional education programs and services that, with your help, we are able to provide – not only to our community, but to society at large.

As I witnessed the Remembrance Day Service at one of our schools, I was once again reminded of how proud we should be of our students, staff, parents and our clergy.

The audit report regarding trustee expenses was released today and will be made available on the Board's website. The attention given to this matter in the media - certainly understandable - has been upsetting for Catholic ratepayers, supporters and to our organization as a whole. We understand the upset and anger. We are committed to being accountable and transparent regarding all expenses of the Board.

On a move forward basis, we believe that the new trustee expense policy, the checks and balances and the processes introduced and implemented will allow for a more accountable and streamlined process thereby preventing any possibility of questionable spending.

It is time to move forward to enhance public confidence. We assure our parents that, while these have been challenging times, we remain focussed on offering quality Catholic education; providing opportunities for students to become stewards of the earth and contributing members to our greater society; as well as strengthening partnerships within our community and the province.

Let us join together in meeting the challenge that has been given to us by the Catholic Bishops of Ontario:

*In an age which seems more fearful of the future, we are
directed to give an account of hope that is within us.*

May we all journey together as we move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Les Nemes".

Les Nemes
Director of Education