

## Learning for All: Teachers, SSWs and EAs Come Together

All Teachers, Student Support Workers, and Educational Assistants gathered at four locations across the Board for a day of professional learning, presented by the Board's Special Education Department.

Superintendent of Education, Dr. Donaleen Hawes, and Principal of Special Education, Tom Jordan, presented to Trustees an overview of the day.

"The session was created to specifically address the Ministry of Education's new document entitled, *Learning for All K-12*," said Dr. Hawes.

The document expands on the *Education for All K-6* document currently being used by elementary schools. The new document extends the plan to include Grades 7 through 12 students. The Professional Activity Day was designed to introduce the new document and how it is being implemented and supported in schools. "Boards were also required to address how *Learning for All* includes students with Individual Education Plans," said Dr. Hawes.

The day began with a beautiful prayer service followed by an opening session for all Teachers and Principals. The workshop was the result of a successful collaboration between the Special Education and Curriculum Departments.

Regional sessions were held at Holy

Trinity CSS in Cornwall, St. Mark Catholic School in Prescott, St. Thomas Aquinas CHS in Russell, and Notre Dame CHS in Carleton Place.

Teachers provided workshops on differentiated instruction, flexible groupings, assessment for learning, assistive technology and core French. In addition, specific grade facilitated sessions were offered for teachers to share.

Mr. Jordan told Trustees that the Student Support Workers and Educational Assistants had a plenary morning session at the North Grenville Municipal Centre in Kemptville, presented by Ron Morrish, on effective teaching strategies. Afternoon workshops included sessions on anxiety, hard of hearing, P.I.C. symbols and restorative practices.

Feedback from the sessions has been extremely positive with both teachers and support staff sharing an extremely positive attitude about the day.

## Working Together: Collaborative Project Underway

In collaboration with the Ministry of Education's Student Achievement Division, the CDSBEO has undertaken a collaborative inquiry. Principal of Curriculum, Charlotte Rouleau, and Literacy Instructional Coach, Joy Martel, outlined the *Kindergarten and Grade One Collaborative Inquiry* project to the Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Rouleau told the Board that the project involves five schools, and sees English and French Immersion primary Teachers collaborate to reflect on teaching and professional learning practices. The focus is on intentional teaching through asking questions, direct instruction in literacy and language, and learning through real life situations.

The inquiry will use teacher moderation, pre-assessment, and post assessment as primary strategies. Learning centres will also be created to focus on explicit learning in literacy and language development, and learning through real life context, or true life situations.

Mrs. Rouleau told the Board, "The project will result in a renewed focus on teaching and learning practices in the Kindergarten program. Connections between Kindergarten and Grade one programming and the exploration of common ground between these years is also part of the study."

The inquiry will allow teachers to share their teaching and learning practices with others to offer colleagues the opportunity to learn from one another.

The inquiry will be completed in May 2010 and the Board will author an article on its findings. That document will become part of a larger 60-school article, which will be analyzed by the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat.

The analysis will culminate in the development of new resources focused on providing support for primary teachers across the province in the area of primary literacy.

We walk in



good company!

Feb. 24, 2010 - Special Education Advisory Committee

Mar. 4, 2010 - Professional Activity Day

Mar. 15 - 19, 2010 - March Break

For more information contact **613-258-7757** or **1-800-443-4562**, ext. 206.

Visit us online at [www.cdsbeo.on.ca](http://www.cdsbeo.on.ca).

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**Next Board Meeting**  
March 2, 2010  
Kemptville Board  
Office  
7:00 p.m.