

# **NEWS RELEASE FROM THE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO**

**Date:** March 26, 2008  
**Subject:** Earth Hour  
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## **CDSBEO Schools to Mark Earth Hour**

**Kemptville, ON** – The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario is pleased to announce that all schools within our jurisdiction will be participating in the in-school version of Earth Hour.

As Earth Hour is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 29 at 8 p.m., CDSBEO will be participating in a special hour created so that schools across the province can take part. All CDSBEO schools and Board offices will join the cause by turning off their lights on Friday, March 28 at 10:00 a.m.

Earth Hour is a global campaign, sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund, to raise awareness of climate change and our impact on the environment. So far, 140,000 people and close to 10,000 businesses have pledged their support and participation in the effort and will turn their lights off for one hour. Each school has been registered as taking part at [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org).

CDSBEO Principal of Curriculum, Charlotte Rouleau, stated that Earth Hour is a welcome addition to the Board's environmental efforts. "Our Board is involved in a number of programs aimed at helping to preserve the environment. We have several pilot schools involved in the Eco-Schools program, and partnerships, such as with the Frontenac Arch-Biosphere, that give students the opportunities to explore our environment in a hands-on manner. This allows our students to become leaders and share important environmental messages with their Catholic communities."

Director of Education, Bill Gartland, stated that the effort complements both the Board's curriculum and theme, *Called to serve... as disciples of Christ*. "We have been teaching our students about different ways they can serve as stewards of the Earth and protect and sustain our environment. Earth Hour is a perfect extension of those teachings."

For more information, please contact CDSBEO Communications Officer Bob Perreault at 613-258-7757 or 1-800-443-4562 ext. 206 or 613-859-0678 (mobile).

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario operates 40 elementary and 10 secondary schools across 8 counties. The CDSBEO offers excellence in Catholic education through provincial-leading programs to approximately 15,000 students.