



SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Contact: Bette Bartlett, Board Chair
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Superior-Greenstone District School Board
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MARATHON, Ontario – Bette Bartlett, Chair of the Superior-Greenstone District School Board has been elected as the Vice-President of the Northern Regional Council and member of the Executive Council for the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA). The election was held by OPSBA Member Delegates during the OPSBA Annual General Meeting held in Sault Ste. Marie, June 13-16, 2002.

As the trustee representing the constituents of the Township of Nipigon, Ms. Bartlett has held the position of Chair of the Superior-Greenstone DSB, for the past two years having also served as a trustee for this Board and its predecessor, the Nipigon-Red Rock Board of Education for a total of twelve years. She has also served as this board's Northern Voting Member to OPSBA for the last two years.

OPBSA assists boards by working collaboratively with all educational stakeholders in the development of policy positions and frameworks; information sharing and research; analysis of trends in finance, collective bargaining, and other major public policy issues; providing advice on management, governance and strategic planning issues. Ms. Bartlett expects to use this opportunity to bring our northern (small boards) local educational concerns to the forefront as planning issues.

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Advocating on behalf of Northern Boards, she notes that, “In addition to the inherent challenges of ensuring wholly equitable educational opportunities for the students of northwestern Ontario, we have to be particularly diligent in our lobby to government for funding mechanisms that appropriately address the reality of declining enrolment in the north. As a small board with a vast geography we constantly struggle to reconcile deficit expenditures, especially in the area of special education and transportation. So many resources and available learning strategies exist in the educational realm, however funding to provide access is a perennial problem for our small, northern boards.”