



**For Immediate Release
2011 03 21**

**NOTICE OF CLARIFICATION
Re: Full-Day Kindergarten**

Full Day, Every Day JK & SK at NPSC Since 2003

Recent good news of fifteen Nipissing area schools set to offer full-day JK and SK in the year 2012 has been receiving much local coverage, but has also created some confusion surrounding current full-day programming in Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic schools.

We wish to clarify that, while St. Gregory, St. Theresa, Mother St. Bride, Our Lady of Fatima, and St. Hubert schools were included in the recent announcement by the province, "More Full Day Kindergarten Coming to Nipissing", **all twelve NPSC elementary schools have offered full-day, every day JK and SK since September of 2003** as part of the Board's previously funded operating budget, and will continue to do so in 2011. Full-day JK and SK is a priority for our Board and will continue to be offered in all NPSC elementary schools during the implementation of new provincial funding allocation.

The Ontario Government announced that it has allocated \$420 million to help schools make room for full-day kindergarten. As such, the funding model for the *five aforementioned schools* will now be part of the Ministry's Early Learning Program. This means that, in addition to the full-day, every day program, kindergarten classes in these five schools will also have Early Childhood Educators working in partnership with classroom teachers, as well as extended day programs.

We are very pleased to see a number of our schools supported by this provincial program, one which reflects a long-standing, deeply rooted priority of NPSC: an immediate start to full-day learning in JK helps to strengthen and accelerate each student's learning journey toward reaching his or her full potential.

For additional information, please call Joanne Benard, Superintendent of Education, at 705-472-1201.

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