



November 19, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Halton Catholic Board Ratifies Agreements with Its Secondary Teachers, Educational Assistants and Professional Student Services Personnel**

At its November 18, 2008 Regular Board Meeting, the Halton Catholic District School Board ratified three Memoranda of Settlement - one with the Halton Secondary Unit of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association; another with its Educational Assistants who are members of CUPE (Canadian Union of Public Employees) 5200 and a third Memorandum of Settlement with the Association of Professional Student Services Personnel (APSSP).

All three agreements cover the four year period of September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2012.

The Memorandum of Settlement with the Halton Secondary Unit of OECTA covers the Board's more than 625 Catholic secondary teachers and provides for a 3% wage increase during each year of the four years as well as non-monetary and housekeeping changes to the current collective agreement, which are in accordance with the parameters outlined by the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Discussion Table Agreement.

The Memorandum of Settlement covering the Board's over 475 Educational Assistants (CUPE 5200) also includes a 3% wage increase during each year of the four years, as well as non-monetary and housekeeping changes to the current collective agreement, which are in accordance with the parameters outlined by the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Discussion Table Agreement.

In addition, the Board ratified a third Memorandum of Settlement covering over 60 members of APSSP, which includes Speech and Language Pathologists, Attendance Counsellors, Child and Youth Counsellors, Psychometrists and Psychologists, Communicative Disorders Assistants, Librarians and Social Workers. This agreement also provides a 3% wage increase during each year of the four years, as well as non-monetary and housekeeping changes to the current collective agreement, which are in compliance with the terms outlined by the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Discussion Table Agreement.

Board Chair Alice Anne LeMay commended the members of all of the negotiating parties for their diligence and commitment to work together to achieve four year agreements that are in accordance with the provisions of the provincial framework and which will provide a harmonious and stable work environment for three more employee groups of the Board.

The terms and conditions of the provincial framework were reached between the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association and the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association, CUPE and APSSP for the renewal of agreements with the respective employee groups of Catholic district school boards in the province, which ended on August 31, 2008. The provincial framework discussions were initiated and facilitated by Ministry of Education officials to assist in providing labour stability at Ontario school boards over the next four years so that the focus on student achievement and success can be maintained.

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### **About the Halton Catholic District School Board**

The Halton Catholic District School Board, a provincial leader in student achievement in literacy and numeracy, as well as in Special Education, provides the best of Catholic education to over 28,500 students of all ages at 49 faith-centred learning communities in Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville. Committed to servant leadership, continuous school improvement planning and the preservation of the enduring gift of Catholic education, the Board is an exciting and dynamic system in which to learn, grow and work.

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