June 21, 2006

Chairs of District School Boards
Chairs of School Authorities
Presidents of Provincial Trustee Associations

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some recent developments that will impact on the November 2006 school board elections.

First of all, I am pleased to inform you that The Budget Measures Act, 2006, received Royal Assent on May 18, 2006. Under this Act, the term of office for school board trustees and municipal councillors has been changed from three years to four years. This means that four-year terms of office for school boards will begin on December 1, 2006 after the November 13th municipal and school board elections.

The term of office for school board trustees in Ontario will now be similar to school boards in Quebec, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Nova Scotia. Our government believes that a four-year term of office will strengthen local government by providing school boards with more time to plan and implement their agendas, in a similar fashion to the federal, provincial, and municipal governments.

Secondly, you should also be aware that an amendment to Ontario Regulation 412/00 – Elections To and Representation on District School Boards - has been filed with the Registrar of Regulations as Ontario Regulation 211/06. As you know, the regulation was amended to adjust the procedural timelines for trustee determination and distribution calculations in light of municipal restructuring in several areas in the province. The regulation was also amended to allow district school boards to determine, by board resolution, that the number of members to be elected at the 2006 regular election will be the same number of members that were to be elected at the 2003 regular election. This amendment was made to address concerns raised by separate school board representatives regarding the accuracy of school support data provided by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation.
I would appreciate it if you would draw these amendments to the attention of your colleagues, and I thank you for your continued commitment to educational excellence for all our students.

Sincerely,

Sandra Pupatello, MPP
Minister of Education

c: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers of School Authorities
Distribution List:

Chairs of District School Boards
- Wanda McQueen, Algoma DSB
- Tom Dall, Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic DSB
- Meg Westley, Avon Maitland DSB
- Judy Galoska, Bluewater DSB
- Cliff Casey, Brant Haldimand-Norfolk Catholic DSB
- Norman Bethune, Bruce-Grey Catholic DSB
- Ronald Eamer, Catholic DSB of Eastern Ontario
- Bernard Bareilhe, Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario
- Dorothee Petit-Pas, Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud
- Michel Pilon, Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l'Est ontarien
- Angèle Brunelle, Conseil scolaire de district catholique des Aurores boréales
- Denis Belanger, Conseil scolaire de district catholique des Grandes Rivières
- Marie Biron, Conseil scolaire de district catholique du Centre-Est de l'Ontario
- Marcel Montpellier, Conseil scolaire de district catholique du Nouvel-Ontario
- Ronald Demers, Conseil scolaire de district catholique Franco-Nord
- Lucie Guilleminette, Conseil scolaire de district des écoles catholiques de Sud-Ouest
- Jean-Luc Bernard, Conseil scolaire de district du Centre Sud-Ouest
- Aurele Tellier, Conseil scolaire de district du Grand Nord de l'Ontario
- Denis Labelle, Conseil scolaire de district du Nord-Est de l'Ontario
- Kevin Maves, DSB of Ontario
- Juergen Leukert, DSB Ontario North East
- Peter Ferreira, Dufferin-Peel Catholic DSB
- Mary Ann Martin, Durham Catholic DSB
- Michael Barrett, Durham DSB
- Don Werdeb, Grand Erie DSB
- Gale Simko-Hatfield, Greater Essex County DSB
- Al Bailey, Halton Catholic DSB
- Paul Tate, Halton DSB
- Patrick Daly, Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB
- Al Pierce, Hamilton-Wentworth DSB
- Judy Edgar, Hastings and Prince Edward DSB
- Vincent Mclnnes, Huron Perth Catholic DSB
- Gerald Barkens, Huron-Superior Catholic DSB
- Angela Lloyd, Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB
- David Penney, Keewatin-Patricia DSB
- Mike Favreau, Kenora Catholic DSB
- Ron Olkonen, Lakehead DSB
- Jane Bryce, Lambton Kent DSB
- Laurie French, Limestone DSB
- Paul Whitehead, London Catholic DSB
• Jay Aspin, Near North DSB
• Dan Whipple, Niagara Catholic DSB
• Don Houle, Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic DSB
• Colleen Landers, Northeastern Catholic DSB
• Gerald Rousseau, Northwest Catholic DSB
• June Flynn-Turner, Ottawa-Carleton Catholic DSB
• Lynn Graham, Ottawa-Carleton DSB
• Janet McDougald, Peel DSB
• Margaret Godawa, Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic DSB
• Dena Morrison, Rainbow DSB
• Ron McAlister, Rainy River DSB
• Dave Howard, Renfrew County Catholic DSB
• David Kaiser, Renfrew County DSB
• Diane Bell, Simcoe County DSB
• Diane Riffert, Simcoe Muskoka Catholic DSB
• Brenda Kormendy, St. Clair Catholic DSB
• Paula Peroni, Sudbury Catholic DSB
• Sandra Svenkenson, Superior North Catholic DSB
• Bette Bartlett, Superior-Greenstone DSB
• Graham Hart, Thames Valley DSB
• Doug Demeo, Thunder Bay Catholic DSB
• Oliver Carroll, Toronto Catholic DSB
• Sheila Ward, Toronto DSB
• Doris Monahan, Trillium Lakelands DSB
• David McDonald, Upper Canada DSB
• Bob Borden, Upper Grand DSB
• Dianne Moser, Waterloo Catholic DSB
• Colin Harrington, Waterloo Region DSB
• Marino Gazzola, Wellington Catholic DSB
• John Macri, Windsor-Essex Catholic DSB
• Elizabeth Crowe, York Catholic DSB
• Bill Crothers, York Region DSB

Chairs of School Authorities
• Lise Anglehart, Missarenda DSAB
• John McInnis, Atikokan RCSSB
• Karen Bazilewich, Northern DSAB
• Vaughn, Blabb, Red Lake Area Combined RCSSB
• Loraine Ducharme, Moosonee RCSSB
• Louise Garneau-Ross, Penetanguishene Protestant SSB
• Armand Guiguere, Caramat DSAB
• Eleanor Laur, Mine Centre DSAB
• Carol MacEachern, Hornepayne RCSSB
• Brian McLeod, Parry Sound RCSSB
• Bruce Morrison, Moosonee DSAB
• Caroline Paavola, Collins DSAB
• Guy Pelletier, Dubreuilville RCSSB
• Eva Peters, Upsala DSAB
• Suzanne Roch, Foleyet RCSSB
• George Seaton, Connell and Ponsford DSAB
• Claude Secord, Gogama RCSSB
• Suzanne Strader, Asquith Garvey DSAB
• Terry Swanson, Nakina DSAB
• Lonnie Tasse, Foleyet DSAB
• Peter Tonkin, Gogama DSAB
• Michel Trudel, Ignace RCSSB
• Katherine Turner, Moose Factory Island DSB
• Lias Yellowhead, Summer Beaver DSAB

Provincial Trustee Associations
• Ronald Marion, ACÉPO
• Dorothée Petit-Pas, AFOCSC
• Bernard Murray, OCSTA
• Rick Johnson, OPSBA