



ALGONQUIN AND LAKESHORE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

"Leading and Learning with Faith"

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 18, 2010

Principal named as one of Canada's finest

Theresa-Harper Dubé has been named one of Canada's Outstanding Principals for 2010 by The Learning Partnership. She is the Principal of Loyola, School of Continuing and Adult Education, with campuses in Kingston, Belleville, Trenton, Picton and administrative offices in Napanee. Loyola educates students over eighteen years of age. Loyola also educates 1,000 federal inmates incarcerated in Ontario federal correctional facilities. There are eight institutions in the Kingston area and the remaining facilities are scattered throughout the province.

Ms. Harper Dubé was nominated because she is a collaborative, visionary leader who is committed to her students, staff and professional colleagues. "One of the most compelling traits of Theresa as a leader is that she is compassionate and committed to students who struggle," wrote Lynn Wallace, Superintendent of School Effectiveness, who nominated Theresa. "Many of her students have faced challenges in their personal lives and in their education. School has not always been a place where they feel successful. They come to Loyola with the hope of improving their lives and making better opportunities for their families. Theresa works tirelessly to ensure that her staff is sensitive to the needs of Loyola students by providing a welcoming and respectful atmosphere."

Theresa began her teaching career with the predecessor Frontenac-Lennox and Addington Roman Catholic Separate School Board at Regiopolis-Notre Dame in September 1979. She was appointed to her current post as Principal of Loyola in 2006. During her tenure at Loyola, the school has experienced a 23% increase in enrollment and a 100% increase in the number of credits achieved by students.

Theresa has been an exemplary principal in her school, board, and at the provincial level. She entered into her Master of Education program at Queen's University, Kingston, in 1999 and managed to successfully juggle part-time studies, family, and full-time employment. Her thesis, "Trusting Our Leaders: A Study on Trust as a Variable in the Professional Relationship between Principals and Teachers" represents research that Theresa exercises in practice every day. Theresa is a founding member of the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO) project on Coaching/Mentoring for Principals.

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Working from four distinct sites across 16,000 square kilometers, Loyola has established itself as the number one destination for those who seek completion of a secondary diploma and serves as the key administrative guide for all Correctional Services of Canada Prisons in Ontario. To supervise this kind of secondary school with compassion and impact demands a well qualified and outstanding leader.

She continues to support principal colleagues as a workshop facilitator for the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO) on "Coaching/Mentoring for School Leaders". This has taken her to across the province to present to local Catholic Principals' Associations. Within her own board, she has been a member of the Coaching and Mentoring Project for three years, has delivered professional learning for her principal colleagues, and served as a principal mentor. She is also a member of the Ontario Association of Adult and Continuing Education School Board Administrators (CESBA).

"All of us are very proud that Theresa is being nationally recognized for her outstanding leadership in providing an education to those who might not otherwise succeed," said Michael Schmitt, Director of Education. "We are blessed to have such an outstanding leader in our community whose impact on adult learners in our communities and in our Correctional Services of Canada institutions is enriching their lives to become responsible, caring and contributing citizens of this world."

Michael Schmitt
Director of Education

Tom Dall
Chair of the Board

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