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MEDIA RELEASE

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Site Secured for New Catholic Secondary School

Sault Ste. Marie: A site has been secured for Sault Ste. Marie's newest secondary school. The Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board has purchased approximately 20 acres of land in the city's northeast that will house the new facility.

"This is very exciting and a major step toward constructing a state-of-the-art facility for our secondary school students," said HSCDSB Chair Laurie Aceti.

"I applaud our administration and staff who worked so diligently to get this purchase completed. They reviewed a number of possibilities and determined that this location would be best in terms of centralized access from all areas of the city," added Aceti.

The Board purchased three parcels of land on the north side of Second Line East in the area of the yet to be opened Pine Street extension. The land is east of the intersection of Second Line East and Old Garden River Road.

"This property meets all of our requirements for building size including enough space for top-notch outdoor athletic facilities," said Director of Education John Stadnyk.

"This central location will well-serve our city's population now and in the future. Our next step is to begin designing a learning environment that is second to none."

"We would like to thank the Ministry of Education and Sault Ste. Marie MPP David Oraziatti for their support and assistance in making this acquisition come together so quickly." added Stadnyk.

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“Since 2003, our government has invested over \$130 million in new state-of-the-art local schools that will serve the community for years to come and has continued to create construction jobs which strengthens our local economy,” said David Oraziotti, MPP.

"We are committed to building on the progress we have made in education and are committed to ensuring students have the best possible learning environment to reach their full potential. Working with the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board we have secured the largest school project in Ontario, out of 70, approved in the 2011 provincial budget."

The Ministry of Education has allocated \$43.4 million for the new Catholic secondary school which will lead to the consolidation of St. Mary's College, St. Basil Secondary and Holy Angels Learning Centre. The Board has an architect for the project. It is expected that ground breaking for the new secondary school will take place in the spring of 2013.

The anticipated opening of Sault Ste. Marie's newest secondary school is September 2015.