



Press Release

November 9, 2009

Announcing New Director of Education for the York Region District School Board effective January 1, 2010

Aurora, ON – The York Region District School Board is very pleased to announce that Mr. Ken Thurston will be the new Director of Education, effective January 1, 2010. Mr. Thurston will replace Mr. Bill Hogarth, who is retiring after 16 years of service.

“Mr. Thurston’s leadership, experience and expertise are well known and highly regarded and the Board is very fortunate to have someone of his calibre at the helm,” said Diane Giangrande, Chair of the York Region District School Board. “As a passionate educator, he embraces the mission, vision and values of this Board.”

Mr. Thurston brings a wealth of educational experience to the York Region District School Board. He is currently senior advisor to the Ontario Minister of Education on matters pertaining to student achievement, leadership, public education governance and teacher certification.

Prior to his work in the Minister’s Office, Mr. Thurston was a Superintendent with the York Region District School Board from 2000 to 2008. As a member of the Board’s senior team, he served as a Superintendent of Education and as Coordinating Superintendent of Education - Staff and Community Relations. Mr. Thurston has also served as President of the Ontario Public Supervisory Officials’ Association and as the Director of Policy and Research with the Ontario Education Improvement Commission. His awards and honours include being named a Fellow of the Ontario Teachers’ Federation and the Distinguished Leadership Award given by Ontario directors of education and superintendents.

-30-

For further information contact:

Lucia Cascioli

York Region District School Board

Public Affairs and Communications Services

Tel: (416) 969-7170/(905) 727-0022 ext. 2340