



*"Together We Learn"*

School District No. 23  
(Central Okanagan)

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

# News Release

Date: September 8, 2008

Distribute to: News Media, Trustees, Partner Groups, Administrators, District Sites

**Subject: Ministry of Education Confirms Election Boundary Fact Finder**

The Ministry of Education has confirmed that Mr. Gary Graf, a retired superintendent of schools, has been appointed as a 'Fact Finder' to review the electoral boundary reform recommendation of the School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) Board of Education. In her August 28<sup>th</sup> letter to the Board Minister of Education Shirley Bond noted:

"Variation in trustee representation is an important matter that can have significant impact within a school district. The opinions of stakeholders are important factors when considering changes that affect trustee representation and must be weighed against information supplied by the board. In order to assist me in giving full consideration of the board's request in relation to the vocal public opposition to this change, I intend to appoint Gary Graf, a former school superintendent, as a Fact Finder."

Mr. Graf will begin the review process the week of September 8<sup>th</sup> with hopes of submitting a final report back to the Minister by October 1<sup>st</sup>. His review will include meetings with a number of organizations and local government representatives involved in the original consultation process undertaken by the Board of Education. The terms of reference for the review are as follows:

"For the purpose of determining the views of educational stakeholders regarding trustee representation with the Central Okanagan School District, Mr. Graf will meet with trustees, elected representatives of local governments, aboriginal representatives, community representatives, and other persons or groups that he believes appropriate. Mr. Graf will make a report to me (the Minister) by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, detailing the views expressed to him."

This will allow Mr. Graf to consider all public input in regard to the Trustee electoral boundary issue; not just comments or suggestions regarding the Board's original recommendation.

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**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:** Mike Roberts, Superintendent of Schools, (250)860-8888