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**NEWS RELEASE**

November 24, 2010

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCES ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGE FOR 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR**

The Board of Education for School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) has accepted the wishes of Superintendent Deborah Palmer to return to a school principalship in the district for the 2011–2012 school year.

By the end of this school year, Mrs. Palmer will have served as Superintendent of Schools for four years, Assistant Superintendent for one and one-half years and previous to this, six and one-half years as Principal of Elphinstone Secondary School and four years as Principal of Pender Harbour Secondary School in School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast).

Mrs. Palmer recently notified the Board of her desire to return to a school. “I made this decision with the principle of keeping the district’s best interest and in turn the students’ best interest, at the forefront. I have enjoyed my relationships with students, parents, CUPE, SCTA, administration, excluded staff and trustees as superintendent and will continue to value this in my new role next school year.”

Board Chair Silas White praised Mrs. Palmer for her service as Superintendent of Schools and dedication to students. “It hasn’t been an easy time in BC to be an educational leader, but Deborah has been instrumental in holding the district together, and in helping the Board to make difficult decisions and set up systems to sustain our schools through declining enrolment. At the same time, it can be more and more challenging under such an administrative workload to feel like you’re directly improving

individual student achievement, and Deborah has admirably decided that the most direct and positive impact she can offer Sunshine Coast students is as a school principal. The Board is excited about the prospect of having Deborah back in the hallways and making a daily difference in students' lives."

Mrs. Palmer will maintain all Superintendent duties until the end of July 2011. She plans to finish a number of forward-looking projects, including the planning for Neighbourhood Learning Centres at the new Gibsons Elementary and Sechelt Learning Centre, before assisting with her successor's transition.

The Board will immediately commence the search process of securing a new Superintendent of Schools for 2011–2012. It is anticipated that the Board will confirm next school year's principal assignments in spring 2011.