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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Eastern School District Reports Stolen Laptops**

(February 21, 2008) On Sunday, February 17, 2008 it was discovered that four laptop computers were stolen from the Eastern School District's Atlantic Place offices. The Royal Newfoundland Constabulary was contacted immediately and they are currently investigating this incident as a Break, Entry and Theft.

As part of the District's internal investigation, it was discovered that one of the stolen computers contains an electronic database of bussing information regarding approximately 28,000 students. This information includes student names, MCP numbers, addresses, grade levels, phone numbers and names of parents/guardians.

Eastern School District has consulted with the Offices of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and MCP Commission. The stolen computers are password protected, thus limiting access to information. Additionally, the Eastern School District has been advised by the MCP Commission that access to individual medical records is not at risk.

"We are very concerned about this theft and possible breach of private information," says Darrin Pike, CEO/Director of Education, Eastern School District. "We have notified all authorities and school administrators and have also taken immediate action with our landlord at Atlantic Place to strengthen our physical security measures."

The District will now begin the process of notifying parents which primarily affects 56 schools in the Avalon East region and one school in the Avalon West region.

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