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For Immediate Release

## DSBN Community Rallies to Aid Fire Victims

A blaze at a St. Catharines apartment complex on Friday, September 7 has left at least 17 DSBN students homeless. "We have students who are living in a hotel and have lost everything," said Charlene Hadfield, principal at Carleton Public School.

DSBN Youth Councillor, Clair Summers has been working with students to help them come to terms with the ordeal. Students at Carleton, El McCulley, and Prince of Wales Public Schools were affected by the fire.

"It is essential that these students are able to reclaim a sense of normalcy; it is important for both their ability to learn, and to allow them to move on with a positive outlook," said Warren Hoshizaki, Director of Education for the District School Board of Niagara. "The DSBN community is very caring, and I know the response for aid will be wonderful."

A donation centre for the fire victims has been set-up at the DSBN Education Centre. Donations of non-perishable food items and clothing for students aged 6 to 17 are the most immediate needs, however toiletries, books, games and other items are greatly appreciated.

Items can be delivered to the District School Board of Niagara Education Centre, 191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 905-641-1550.

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