



# News Release

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Ministry of Education

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## **Sadie Curtis Primary gets the latest technology in education**



**LEARNING IS MORE FUN** – Sadie Curtis Primary School grade one students enjoy learning with their new ENO interactive whiteboard.

Pictured watching the students are Minister of Education, The Honourable Carl W. Bethel; Mrs. Audrey Farrington, Principal, Sadie Curtis Primary School; Mr. Willard Barr, District Superintendent, Southeastern District and Dr. Mary Markowsky, President of E.T.C. International, authorized distributor of the ENO board in the Caribbean.

**NASSAU**, The Bahamas -- The Honourable Carl W. Bethel performed double-duty as Minister of Education and the Member of Parliament for the Sea Breeze constituency when he presented Sadie Curtis Primary School with two technologically-advanced ENO boards. Minister Bethel told the teachers and students during the presentation that the funds for the boards came from the one hundred-thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) parliamentary allotment given to each representative to assist in their constituency.

Minister Bethel also stated that he was delighted to provide the students with the devices which will replace the traditional chalkboard in the classroom. He further stated the ENO boards have only been on the market for a few months, and the fact that Sadie Curtis school has two already, is evidence of his commitment to their education.

Minister Bethel told the students that the boards will make learning fun and motivate them to improve their attendance at school. He also encouraged the grade one students to learn as much as they can and that all of the benefits of a good education such as a nice home, family and other opportunities will follow.

The students were delighted when the Minister told them that he would be presenting the school with two boards and he hoped that soon all of the classrooms would be fitted with this equipment.

Dr. Mary Markowsky, President of E.T.C. International, the authorized distributor for the ENO board in Caribbean region (including The Bahamas), attended the ceremony and noted that the board is the latest advancement in education. Dr. Markowsky stated that although there are several versions of the interactive white boards in Bahamian schools, the ENO board is more versatile because it does not require any electricity, and teachers can use both permanent and dry-erase markers on them. The older 'White Boards' will not function if permanent markers and magnets come in contact with them.

Mr. Manley Wisdom, Regional Representative for E.T.C. International was also present and performed a demonstration for the Minister, education officers, teachers and students. He called on students to participate in the session by using markers to drag items on the screen to answer questions, and place magnets on the board to spell words. Mr. Wisdom also showed how the device which has internet access could be used to incorporate material from the worldwide web instantaneously. He accessed the web and downloaded the Bahamian national anthem to which the students rose to their feet to sing.

The grade one homeroom teacher, Mrs. Shavone Clarke, stated the ENO board will make her teaching easier and more interesting. She noted that today's children enter the classroom being technologically savvy and instruments such as the ENO board will allow teachers to capture and maintain students' attention throughout the lesson.

Some of the other advantages of the ENO Boards are that it:

1. allows for greater creativity from teachers and students
2. reduces teacher's lesson preparations
3. improves discipline because children are focused and having fun learning
4. saves money because the use of paper and ink is reduced
5. fun and easy to use
6. it is a certified 'Green Product' because it is made from all recyclable material

Mrs. Audrey Farrington, Principal of Sadie Curtis Primary School thanked Minister Bethel on behalf of the teachers and students. Superintendent for the Southeastern District, Mr. Willard Barr also attended the presentation.