

Results-based Plan Briefing Book 2009/10

Ministry of Education

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Part I: Results-based Plan 2009/10

Ministry of Education

PART I: PUBLISHED RESULTS-BASED PLAN 2009-10

MINISTRY OVERVIEW

The Ministry of Education strives to promote a strong, vibrant, publicly funded education system that is focused on three goals: high levels of student achievement, reduced gaps in student achievement and high levels of public confidence.

VISION

Ontario students will receive the best publicly funded education in the world, measured by high levels of achievement and engagement for all students. Successful learning outcomes will give all students the skills, knowledge and opportunities to attain their potential, to pursue lifelong learning, and to contribute to a prosperous, cohesive society.

MISSION

The ministry seeks to energize Ontario's publicly funded education system through stronger partnerships. The wisdom of educators and all those working in the education sector will continue to be sought and valued. Parents will be engaged more in the education of their children. Students will be given a stronger voice in the education they are receiving. More relationships with employers and local leaders will be strengthened to improve linkages between schools and communities.

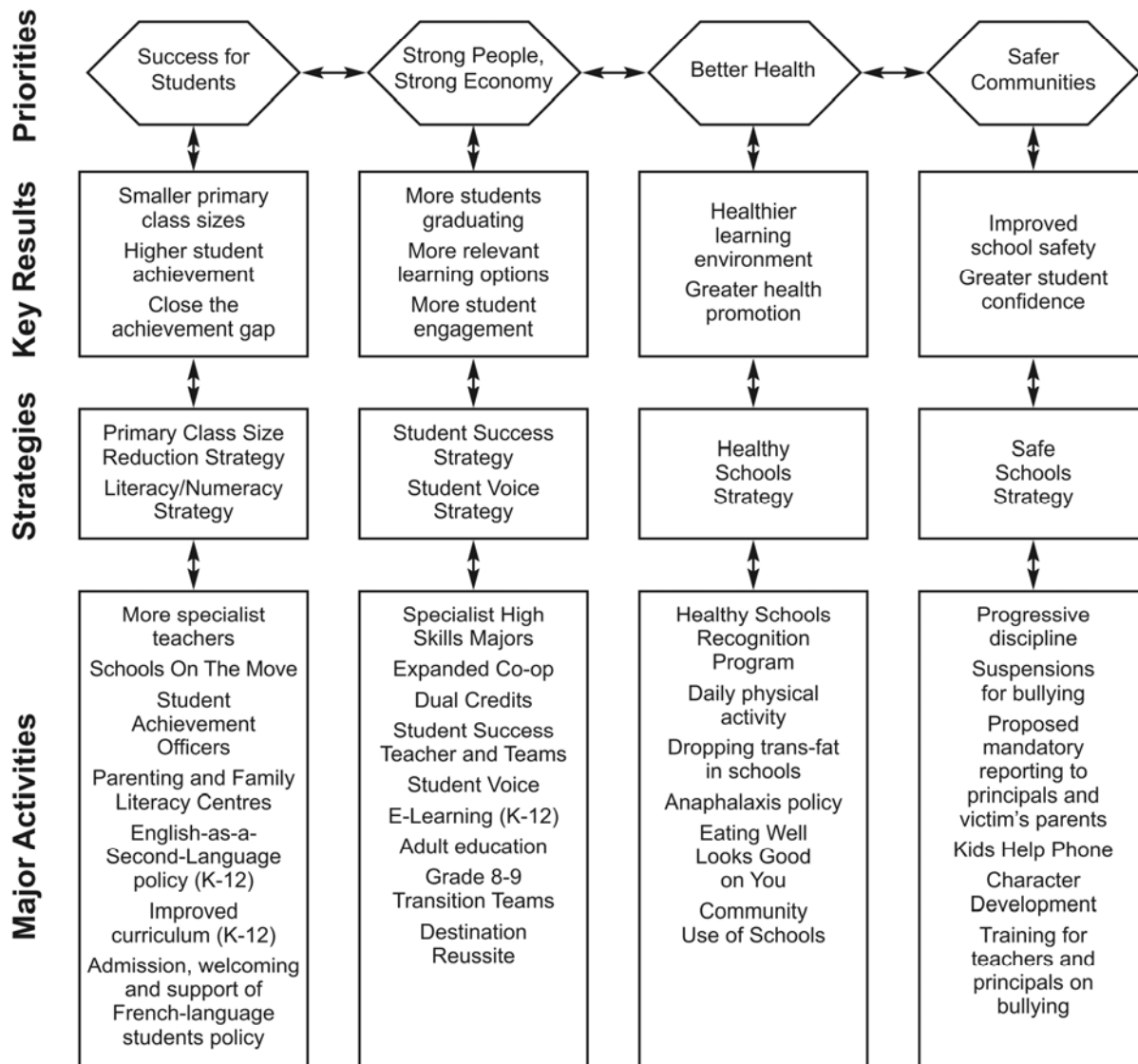
These partnerships will create a publicly funded education system that can reach every student.

KEY PRIORITIES AND RESULTS

The ministry's work supports four government priorities:

- Success for Students
- Strong People, Strong Economy
- Better Health
- Safer Communities

Ministry Contribution to Key Priorities & Results



Success for Students

Student achievement from kindergarten to Grade 12 is the top priority in education. The overall skill and knowledge level of Ontario's students must continue to rise to remain competitive in a global economy. At the same time, the achievement gap must continue to be closed between students who excel and students who struggle because of personal, cultural or academic barriers.

The government has implemented a number of initiatives to ensure more students succeed. These include the Primary Class Size Reduction Strategy and the Literacy/Numeracy Strategy. The government's Student Success Strategy is included in the Strong People, Strong Economy priority section; however this strategy is also

vital to support the Success for Students priority.

The [Primary Class Size Reduction Strategy](#) has successfully lowered class sizes for students in junior kindergarten to Grade 3 classrooms. This is providing students with more individual attention so they have a better chance to succeed throughout school and beyond.

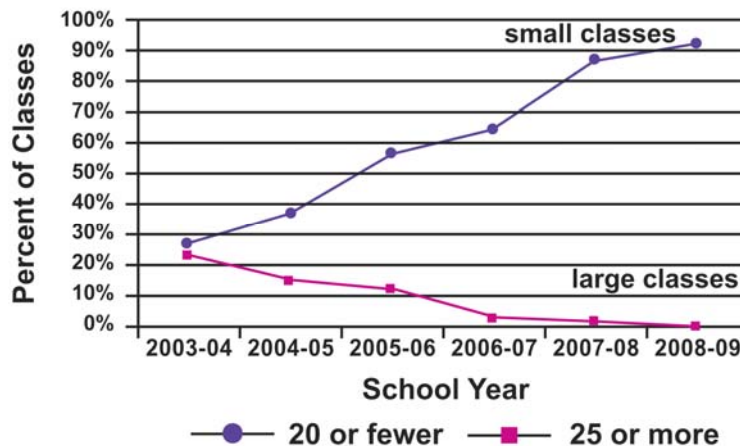
In 2003-04, twenty-five per cent of classes had 25 or more primary students, while only 32 per cent of primary students were learning in classes of 20 or fewer. The government committed to having 90 per cent of classes with 20 students or fewer and no classes with more than 23 students.

Through the strategy, an additional 5,100 primary teachers were funded in Ontario schools in 2008-09 compared to 2003-04.

Performance Measure

The government's target was achieved in 2008-09 with more than 90 per cent of kindergarten to Grade 3 classrooms at 20 or fewer students and no classes with more than 23 students. That means more than 540,000 primary students are in classes of 20 or fewer, compared to only 166,000 students five years before.

Class sizes for the past five years at each school are recorded in the government's [Class Size Tracker](#).



The [Literacy/Numeracy Strategy](#) is focused on helping students establish a solid foundation in reading, writing and math by age 12.

In 2002-03, only 54 per cent of Grade 3 and 6 students were achieving the provincial standard (equivalent to a B grade) in reading, writing and math assessments. Students who struggle with these skills often become discouraged and later drop out of school.

The government set a target to have 75 per cent of students meet the provincial standard.

The government has implemented a number of initiatives to help more young students excel in reading, writing and math. These include:

- An additional 2,600 elementary specialist teachers were funded in 2008-09. These teachers help students improve reading, writing and math skills – and boost student achievement in areas such as music, the arts and physical education.
- [Parenting and Family Literacy Centres](#) facilitate early learning and give children a strong start when they enter school.
- Student Achievement Officers work with principals, teachers and board leaders to improve student reading, writing and math skills.
- The [Schools On The Move](#) program identifies elementary schools that are succeeding in challenging circumstances and encourages them to share their literacy and numeracy strategies with other schools.

Performance Measure

In 2007-08, [65 per cent of Grade 3 and Grade 6 students met the provincial standard](#) in reading, writing and math. This represents an 11 percentage point increase since 2002-03. The results for each school are available on [the EQAO website](#).

Ontario has also demonstrated strong results compared to other jurisdictions. The province's nine-and ten-year-old students rank among the top in the world in reading according to the [2006 Progress in International Reading Literacy Study](#). In addition, the [2007 Pan-Canadian Assessment Program report](#) showed that Ontario's 13-year-old English-language students scored significantly higher in reading than their peers in other provinces and territories.

Strong People, Strong Economy

A strong publicly funded education will help ensure the long-term success of the province's economy. Ontario remains focused on helping more students achieve success in high school and graduate with high quality skills and knowledge. This will provide Ontario with the innovators and leaders it needs to keep the economy strong in the future.

The [Student Success Strategy](#) helps students in Grade 7 to 12 tailor their education to their individual strengths, goals and interests, and brings back students who have left school without finishing their diploma.

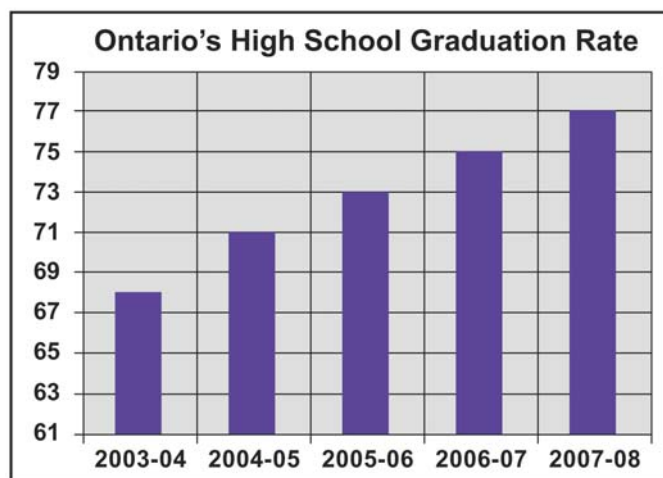
In 2003-04, only 68 per cent of students were completing their high school diploma. Studies show that those students who do not graduate face a future with an increased risk of unemployment, financial difficulties and social issues. In response, the government set a graduation target of 85 per cent.

To help more students graduate, several programs were launched or expanded. These include:

- [Specialist High Skills Majors](#) are bundles of 8-10 classroom courses, workplace experiences and sector certifications in different sectors such as information technology, manufacturing and hospitality.
- One full-time Student Success Teacher is in nearly every high school. They mentor and monitor struggling students and support student advocacy.
- [Expansion of Cooperative Education](#) allows high school students to apply two co-op credits towards the 18 compulsory credits required for graduation.
- [Dual Credits](#) allow students to earn credits that count towards both their high school diploma and their college diploma/degree or apprenticeship certification.
- [Student Voice](#) strengthens student participation in their school and the development of provincial education policy. It includes a Minister's Student Advisory Council, funding for student-led projects and regional student forums.
- Destination Réussite supports French-language school boards in the implementation of Student Success Strategy initiatives at their schools through regional teams that include school board and college/university staff.

Performance Measure

In 2007-08, Ontario's graduation rate increased to 77 per cent. This represents an increase of nine percentage points – or 13,500 more students – compared to 2003-04.



The Student Success Strategy also received a positive evaluation from the [Canadian Council on Learning](#) in 2008. Its report concluded that over the past four years, more students are getting the attention and learning options they need to be successful in

school. The report suggests that other jurisdictions could benefit from reviewing Ontario's high school strategy.

Better Health

Health is a priority in Ontario's education system. Healthy students have demonstrated higher levels of learning and skill development and are more likely to be healthy adults. They also have a higher quality of life and lower impact on the health care system.

Ontario's [Healthy Schools Strategy](#) is focused on supporting learning and growing through good food, daily physical activity and health promotion.

With childhood obesity rates on the rise, the government has taken action to create a healthier environment for students. Initiatives include:

- Schools have dropped [trans fat](#) from food and beverages sold in school.
- [The Healthy Schools Recognition Program](#) encourages schools to declare a commitment to developing a healthier learning environment.
- [Twenty minutes of daily physical activity](#) is incorporated into class time in elementary schools.
- School boards are required to have [an anaphylaxis policy](#).
- The [Community Use of Schools](#) program provides funding to school boards to help offset the cost of providing not-for-profit community group access to school facilities after school hours at reduced rates.

Performance Measure

Nearly one thousand schools registered for the Healthy Schools Recognition Program in 2007-08. Teachers, students and parents from each school identified at least one activity they would undertake to make their school a healthier place to learn. The participating schools and their activities are listed on the [Healthy Schools website](#).

Safer Communities

Every Ontario student has the right to feel safe and be safe when they go to school. Safe schools are also a prerequisite for student success and academic achievement.

Ontario's [Safe Schools Strategy](#) allows children to learn, grow and achieve in a safe and secure environment. The strategy includes:

- [The introduction of legislation](#) that would require school staff to report serious student incidents to the principal and require principals to contact the parents of victims.
- [Discipline is now combined with opportunities](#) for students to continue their education.

- Bullying is now an infraction for which suspension must be considered.
- Kids Help Phone is being supported so it can provide a bullying prevention hotline 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Teachers and principals have been trained on how to address and prevent bullying.
- [A registry of bullying prevention programs](#) was created to provide one-stop access to a range of products which schools can purchase to help combat bullying.
- Supporting schools located in urban, low-income areas with Urban and Priority High Schools Funding initiatives such as after-school tutoring, breakfast programs and student leadership projects.

Reach Every Student

There are a number of other new or ongoing ministry initiatives that support success for students; strong people, strong economy; better health; and safer communities. They are also helping to increase student achievement, close the achievement gap and raise public confidence. These initiatives include:

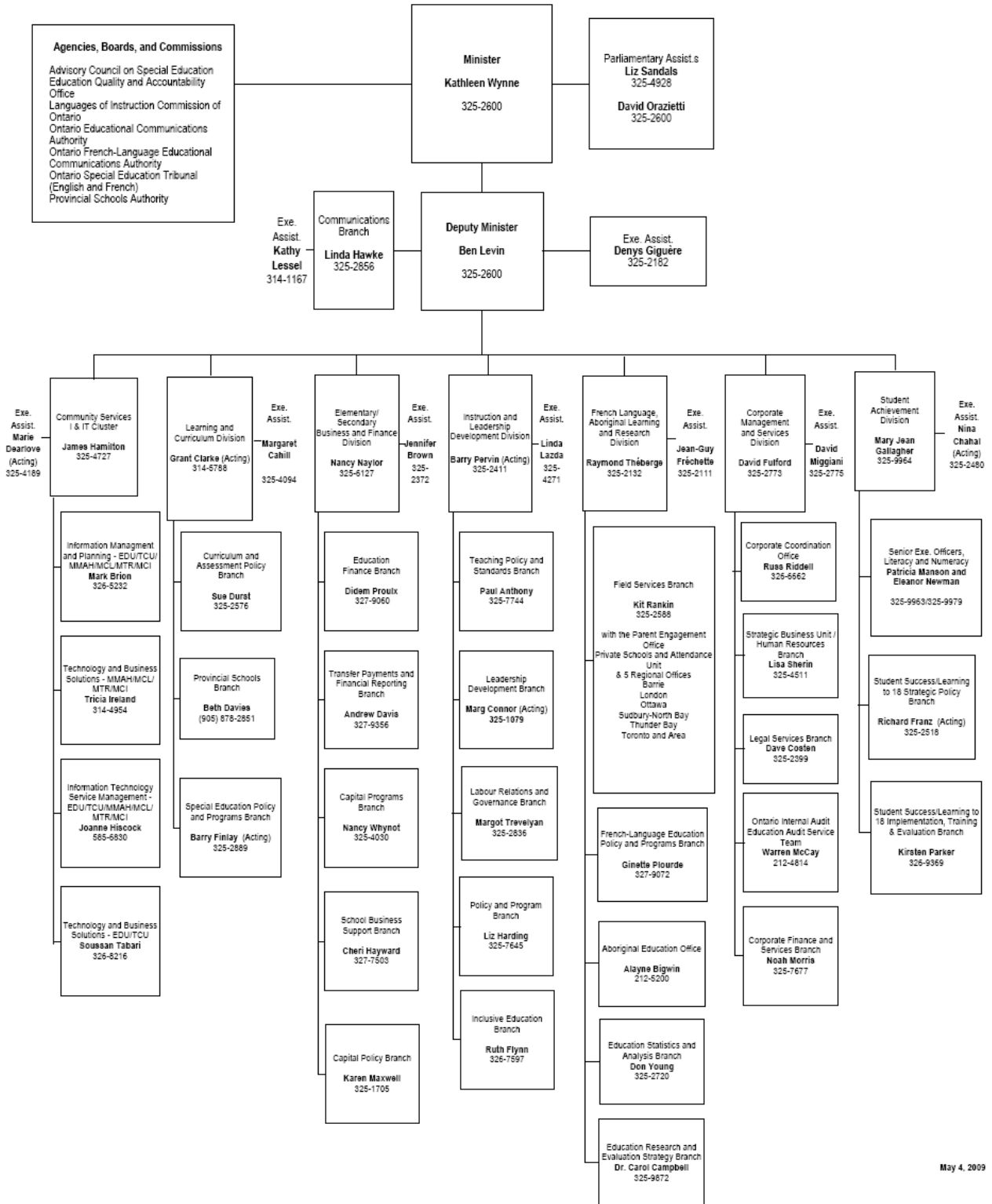
- Supporting succession planning and leadership development for principals and supervisory officers through the Ontario Leadership Strategy.
- Addressing declining enrolment in Ontario schools.
- Engaging parents through funding for School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees, as well as through Parents Reaching Out Grants.
- Supporting French-language and Aboriginal education through increased funding and expanded programs.
- Improving the education funding formula.
- Repairing, renovating and building schools.
- Working with teachers' federations and school boards to ensure continued peace and progress.
- Rewarding and recognizing educators with Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence.
- Supporting French-language education through Politique d'aménagement linguistique.
- Supporting students with special education needs through increased funding and expanded programs.

Poverty Reduction

The Ministry of Education is also supporting Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy. It is a long-term strategy focused on improving opportunities for Ontario's kids. The strategy includes indicators to measure our progress and sets a target of reducing the number of children living in poverty by 25 per cent over the next 5 years.

The strategy is focused on children and youth, with the goal of breaking the cycle of poverty by improving their success in school, supporting families, and empowering communities. It's also about smarter government so that programs are achieving their intended goals.

MINISTRY ORGANIZATION CHART



LEGISLATION

Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.2 as amended by S.O. 1991, c.10; S.O. 1991, c.15; S.O. 1992, c.15; S.O. 1992, c.16; S.O. 1992, c.17; S.O. 1992, c.27; S.O. 1992, c.32; S.O. 1993, c.11; S.O. 1993, c.23; S.O. 1993, c.26; S.O. 1993, c.27, Sched.; S.O. 1993, c.41; S.O. 1994, c.1; S.O. 1994, c.17; S.O. 1994, c.23; S.O. 1994, c.27; S.O. 1995, c.4; S.O. 1996, c.2; S.O. 1996, c.11; S.O. 1996, c.12; S.O. 1996, c.13; S.O. 1996, c.32; S.O. 1997, c.3; S.O. 1997, c.16; S.O. 1997, c.19; S.O. 1997, c.22; S.O. 1997, c.27; S.O. 1997, c.31; S.O. 1997, c.32; S.O. 1997, c.43, Sched.; S.O. 1998, c.3; S.O. 1998, c.14; S.O. 1998, c.33; S.O. 1999, c.6; S.O. 1999, c.9; S.O. 2000, c.5; S.O. 2000, c.11; S.O. 2000, c.12; S.O. 2000, c.25; S.O. 2000, c.26, Sched; S.O. 2001, c. 8; S.O. 2001, c. 13; S.O. 2001, c. 14, Sched.; S.O. 2001, c.17; S.O. 2001, c.23; S.O. 2001, c.24; 2002, c. 7; 2002, c. 8, Sched. A; 2002, c. 8, Sched. I; 2002, c. 17, Sched. C; 2002, c. 17, Sched. D; 2002, c. 17, Sched. F, Table; 2002, c. 18, Sched. G; 2002, c.22; 2003, c.2; 2004, c.8; 2004, c.31; 2005, c.4; 2005, c.5; 2006, c. 2; 2006, c. 5; 2006, c. 9, Sched. H; 2006, c. 10; 2006, c. 17; 2006, c. 21, Sched. F; 2006, c. 28; 2006, c. 32, Sched. C; 2006, c. 33, Sched. Z.3; 2006, c. 34; 2006, c. 35, Sched. C; 2007, c.7, Sched. 9; 2007, c. 14; 2008, c. 2; 2008, c.7, Sch. F; 2008, c. 14; 2008, c. 19, Sch. D.

EXCEPT: ss. 257.2.1; 257.5; 257.6(3) to (7); 257.7(3); 257.10(4),(5); 257.12; 257.12.1; 257.12.2; 257.12.3; 257.13 and 257.19(4), [see O.C. 1690/2003]

Governs elementary and secondary education in Ontario.

Education Amendment Act, (No. 1) 1986, S.O. 1986, . 21.

Only s. 4 remains in force and unconsolidated. It provides that the school referred to in the Essex County French-language Secondary School Act, 1977, may be transferred to a Roman Catholic school board, notwithstanding s. 5 of that Act.

Education Quality and Accountability Office Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c.11; S.O. 1997, c.31; 2004, c.8; 2004, c.17; 2006, c. 21, Sched. F; 2006, c. 35, Sched. C.

Establishes the Education Quality and Accountability Office, which evaluates the effectiveness of elementary and secondary education and assesses pupils' academic achievement.

Essex County French-language Secondary School Act, 1977, S.O. 1977, c. 5; 1986, c.21.

Required the former Essex County Board of Education to build a French-language secondary school.

Fairness for Parents and Employees Act (Teachers' Withdrawal of Services) 1997, c. 32; 2006, c. 21, Sched. F

Provided for payments to parents in circumstances where teachers withdrew services.

Lake Superior Board of Education Act, 1976, S.O. 1976, c. 59.

Allowed the former Lake Superior Board of Education to sell a teacher's or caretaker's residence to an employee of the Board.

Ontario College of Teachers Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c.12, as amended by S.O. 1997, c.31; 2001, c.9; 2001, c.14; 2001, c.24; 2002, c.7; 2004, c.26; 2006, c. 10; 2006, c. 19, Sched. C; 2006, c. 21, Sched. F.

Establishes an independent professional regulatory body for Ontario teachers with Council comprised of elected teacher representatives and LGIC appointees. College sets standards of the profession, qualifications for registration by College and is responsible for discipline matters. All teachers in the public system must be members of the College.

Ontario Educational Communications Authority Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.12; 1997, c. 26, Sched.; 1999, c. 12, Sched. Q; 2002, c. 8, Sched. G; 2002, c. 8, Sched. I; 2002, c. 18, Sched. G; 2004, c. 17; 2006, c. 35, Sched. C.; 2007, Sched. 7; 2008, c. 10.

Establishes broadcasting entity – TVO - with mandate to provide English-language educational broadcasting and delivery of distance education to students. Licensed by the CRTC, the federal broadcasting regulatory body.

Ontario French-language Educational Communications Authority Act, 2008, S.O. 2008, c.10.

Establishes broadcasting entity - TFO - with mandate to provide French-language educational broadcasting and delivery of distance education to students. Licensed by the CRTC, the federal broadcasting regulatory body.

Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Repeal Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c.16

Repealed the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Act.

Ontario School Trustees' Council Act, R.S.O. 1980, c.355

Establishes the Ontario School Trustees' Council

Ottawa-Carleton French-Language School Board Transferred Employees Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.44 as amended by 1992, c. 17; 1993, c. 11; 1993, c. 23; 1993, c. 27, Sched.; 1994, c. 1; S.O. 1997, c.31; 2002, c.17, Sched. F, Table.

Governs the transfer of employees from the former Ottawa and Carleton school boards to either of the former French-language school boards in Ottawa.

Provincial Schools Negotiations Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.35 as amended by S.O. 1996, c.12; S.O. 1997, c.31; 2003, c.2; 2006, c. 10; 2006, c. 19, Sched. L; 2006, c. 35, Sched. C.

Governs collective bargaining regime for teachers in provincial schools for blind and deaf through the Provincial Schools Authority, consisting of members appointed by the Government

Sabrina's Law, 2005, c.7.

Requires school boards to have an anaphylactic policy.

School Trust Conveyances Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.S.3; 2002, c.17, Sched. F, Table.

Empowers interested persons to act as trustees for accepting conveyances of land for the purposes of establishing a school

Teachers' Pension Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.T.1 as amended by S.O. 1991, vol.2, c.52; S.O. 1993, c.39; S.O. 1998, c.34; 2005, c. 31, Sched. 21; 2006, c. 33, Sched. Z.8.

Continues the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board and provides for the governance and management of the pension plan for elementary and secondary school teachers and teachers in other designated institutions

Teachers' Pension Act, 1989, S.O. 1989, c.92; S.O. 1993, c.39; S.O. 1998, c.34

Schedule containing teachers' pension plan retained in force, but may be amended by partners.

Teaching Profession Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.T.2, amended 1991, vol.2, c.52; S.O. 1996, c.12; S.O. 1997, c.31; S.O. 2000, c.12; 2002, c.7; 2006, c. 21, Sched. F.

Establishes the Ontario Teachers' Federation to promote interests of teachers and profession. Every teacher is a member. Board made up of teacher unions.

Upper Canada College Act, R.S.O. 1937, c.373; 1958, c.120; 2006, c. 10.

Governs Upper Canada College

Notes:

1. Legislation of particular importance to the Ministry of Education administered by other ministries includes: Assessment Act, Municipal Elections Act, 1996, Municipal Act, 2001, Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation Act, 1997 and the Immunization of School Pupils Act.
2. The Ministry of Education is also responsible for the administration of some "back-to-work" legislation, such as the Back to School Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c. 13; and the Back to School Act (Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board), 2000, c. 23.
3. The list does not include all private Acts, which may be relevant to the Ministry of Education; nor does it include Acts that are purely amending Acts.

Agencies, Boards and Commissions (ABCs)

AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS	2009-10 Expenditure Estimates	2008-09 Expenditure Interim Actuals	2007-08 Expenditure Actuals
Advisory Council on Special Education	75,000	75,000	58,140
Ontario Educational Communications Authority (TVO)	43,060,800	45,760,800	58,960,800
Education Quality and Accountability Office	32,084,100	32,400,000	35,244,478
Languages of Instruction Commission	30,000	30,000	6,947
Ontario Special Education Tribunals	355,520	325,000	371,293
Provincial Schools Authority	30,100	30,100	13,509
L'Office des télécommunications éducatives de langue française de l'Ontario (TFO)	16,600,000	26,600,000	0

Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education

The Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education advises the Minister of Education on any matter related to the establishment and provision of special education programs and services for exceptional students, including the identification and provision of early intervention programs for students with special education needs.

Ontario Educational Communications Authority (TVO)

TVO is governed by the *Ontario Educational Communications Authority Act*. TVO, as Ontario's publicly funded, educational media organization, provides high quality English-language educational programming and services through broadcast, distance education, and interactive web access. Distance education for elementary and secondary school credit is provided through the Independent Learning Centre. TVO's broadcast licence is governed by the federal *Broadcasting Act* and CRTC licensing.

The government is supporting TVO as it proceeds with conversion to digital broadcast as mandated by the CRTC. With TVO's renewed focus on its educational mandate, it continues to add new educational content to its programming to support Ontario's learners from pre-schoolers to adults through lifelong learning opportunities.

L'Office des télécommunications éducatives de langue française de l'Ontario (TFO)

On July 25, 2008, French language programming was enhanced through the establishment of a new autonomous agency, "L'Office des télécommunications éducatives de langue française de l'Ontario" (TFO). This new Franco-Ontarian

institution brings together education, culture and multimedia and provides a new public awareness of the Franco-Ontarian community and its many accomplishments. TFO supports the implementation of the government's Aménagement linguistique policy to counter assimilation while strengthening public sector institutions and their capacity to serve Ontario's Francophone community.

Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO)

EQAO is an independent agency responsible for ensuring greater accountability and enhancing of the quality of education in Ontario. This is achieved through the development and administration of large-scale student assessments and the public release of assessment findings together with recommendations for system improvement.

Languages of Instruction Commission of Ontario

The Languages of Instruction Commission of Ontario was established to help resolve disputes over the provision of education programs in the language of a French or English minority group. The commission intercedes in conflicts between school authorities and French-language rights holders groups.

Ontario Special Education Tribunals (English / French)

The Special Education Tribunals (English and French) are the final avenue of appeal for parents who disagree with an Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) identification or placement decisions.

Provincial Schools Authority

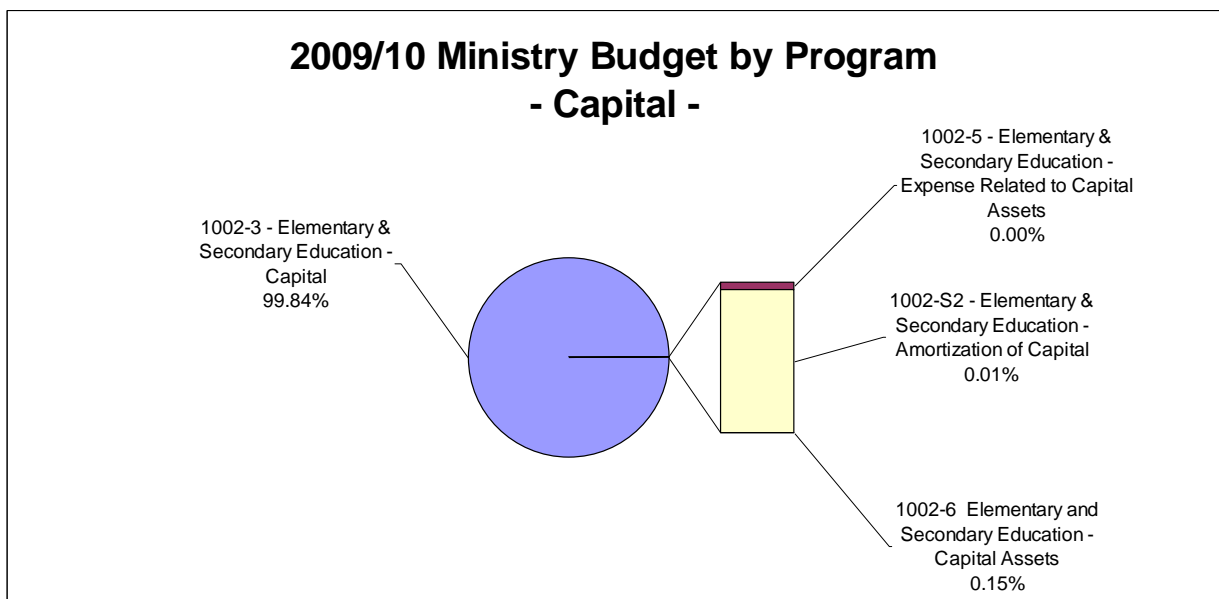
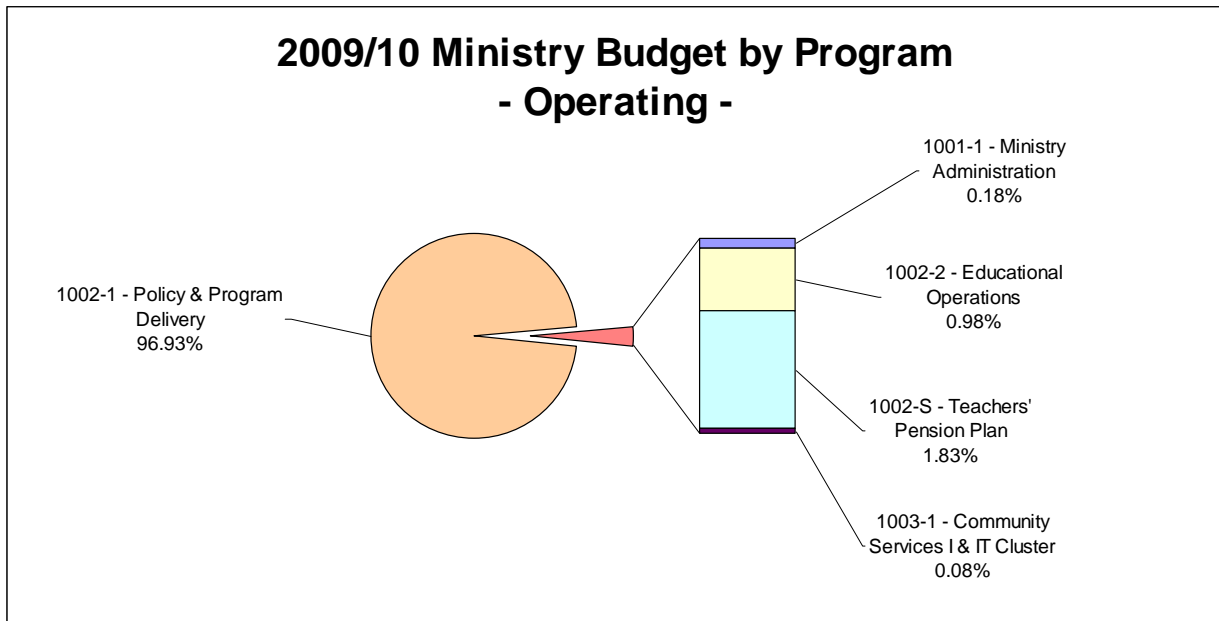
The Provincial Schools Authority (PSA) was established in 1975 under the Provincial Schools Negotiations Act. The Act created a bargaining unit of all teachers employed in provincially operated schools. The PSA negotiates a collective agreement with the Provincial Schools Authority Teachers (PSAT) on behalf of the ministries of Education, and Community Safety and Correctional Services. The PSA is the employer of record for teachers, principals and vice-principals. It handles grievances, leaves and other administrative functions.

Ontario Parent Council

Inactive.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following chart depicts the ministry's investment in 2009/10 in activities that provide Ontario students with an excellent and accountable elementary/secondary education, so their futures and that of the Province will be characterized by continued prosperity, stability and growth. The ministry's budget supports the key government priority "Student Success".



Ministry Planned Expenditures 2009/10 (\$M)

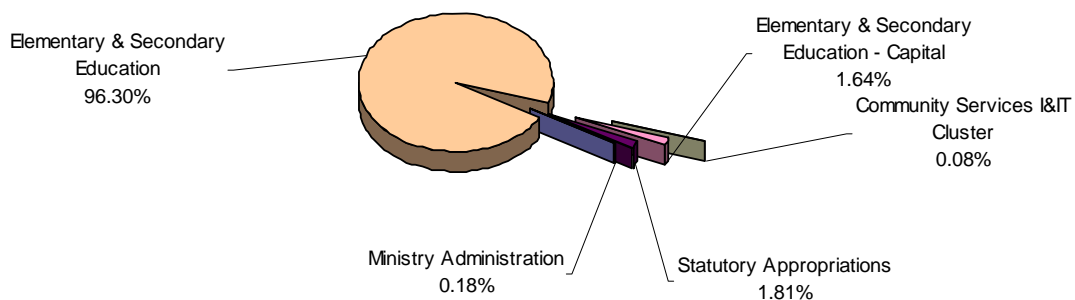
Operating		14,118.2
Capital		235.2
TOTAL	*	14,353.4

* Includes Statutory Appropriations but does not include consolidation adjustments. After consolidation adjustments (for agency and school board expenses), the total 2009/10 planned expenditure is \$14,445.3 million.

Operating and Capital Summary by Vote

Votes/Programs	Estimates 2009/10 \$	Change from Estimates 2008/09 \$	%	Estimates 2008/09 \$	Interim Actuals 2008/09 \$	Actuals 2007/08 \$
OPERATING AND CAPITAL						
Ministry Administration	25,465,800	(65,200)	(0.26%)	25,531,000	24,925,400	21,777,141
Elementary and Secondary Education	14,057,671,000	1,139,852,800	8.82%	12,917,818,200	13,087,576,500	12,205,718,075
Community Services I & IT Cluster	11,184,500	986,600	9.67%	10,197,900	9,516,700	10,881,614
Total including Special Warrants	14,094,321,300	1,140,774,200	8.81%	12,953,547,100	13,122,018,600	12,238,376,830
Less: Special Warrants						
Total to be Voted	14,094,321,300	1,140,774,200	8.81%	12,953,547,100	13,122,018,600	12,238,376,830
Special Warrants						
Statutory Appropriations	259,080,014	205,016,000	379.21%	54,064,014	54,064,000	341,684,281
Ministry Total Operating and Capital	14,353,401,314	1,345,790,200	10.35%	13,007,611,114	13,176,082,600	12,580,061,111
Operating and Capital Assets						
Elementary and Secondary Education	1,650,000	340,000	25.95%	1,310,000	750,000	0
Less: Special Warrants						
Total Assets to be Voted	1,650,000	340,000	25.95%	1,310,000	750,000	0
Special Warrants						
Ministry Total Assets	1,650,000	340,000	25.95%	1,310,000	750,000	0

2009-10 Ministry Investments (Operating & Capital)



Appendix

Ministry of Education

2008/09 Annual Report

The Ministry of Education seeks to establish and maintain a high quality and sustainable publicly funded education system focused on the goals of high levels of student achievement, reduced gaps in student achievement and high levels of public confidence.

Initiatives undertaken in 2008-09 to help the ministry achieve these goals include:

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- Expanding Specialist High Skills Major program from 153 to 484 schools and adding two new majors in Community Safety and Emergency Services, and Information and Communications Technology.
- Getting more students involved in their schools by funding hundreds of student and student council-led projects.
- Creating a Minister's Student Advisory Council to gain student feedback on education issues.
- Holding regional students forums to hear from students on how to improve the education system.
- Providing adult role models through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada to 3,000 more students who are struggling or at risk of dropping out.
- Supporting 33 schools located in urban, low-income areas with Urban Priorities Grant initiatives such as after-school tutoring, breakfast programs and student leadership projects.
- Supporting a Student Success Teacher and Team focused on helping struggling students succeed in nearly every high school.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- Supporting Student Achievement Officers who work with elementary principals and teachers to improve student reading, writing and math skills.
- Reducing primary class sizes so more than 90 per cent of the classes have 20 students or fewer and no class has more than 23 students.
- Funding about 750,000 more books and resources for elementary school libraries.
- Supporting about 1,000 elementary schools in challenging circumstances through the Ontario Focused Intervention Partnership by providing funding for professional learning on literacy and mathematics for teams of teachers and principals.
- Expanding the Schools On The Move program to an additional 44 schools. This program encourages elementary schools to network with each other to share successful teaching strategies in reading, writing and math.

SAFE / HEALTHY SCHOOLS

- Passing legislation that requires schools to drop trans fat from school cafeterias, vending machines and tuck shops.
- Helping young people in Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa enjoy basketball clinics, art classes and leadership training at area schools in the summer through the Focus on Youth program.
- Launching the Eating Well Looks Good on You school project that provides students with healthy recipes that use fresh, locally grown food.
- Expanding the Community Use of Schools program to help offset the cost of providing not-for-profit community group access to school facilities after school hours at reduced rates.
- Helping to save lives by investing in defibrillators, training materials and specialized training for high school teachers.
- Challenging students and staff to do one more thing to make their school healthier as part of the Healthy Schools Recognition Program.
- Supporting the Swim to Survive™ program to teach students how to survive a fall into deep water.
- Introducing legislation that would require school staff to report serious student incidents, such as bullying, to the principal. It would also require that principals contact the parents of the victims.
- Supporting Kids Help Phone so it can provide a bullying prevention hotline 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Expanding the ministry's registry of bullying prevention programs to provide one-stop access to a range of products which schools can purchase to help combat bullying.

SUPPORTING EDUCATORS

- Recognizing 23 educators and support staff with Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence for their contributions to student learning and achievement.
- Achieving peace and stability with four-year provincial framework agreements signed between all teacher and support staff unions and the four trustee associations.
- Launching the Ontario Leadership Strategy that is designed to attract and develop skilled and passionate school and system leaders.
- Launching the Leader-to-Leader and Schools Helping Schools initiatives to share effective practices and strategies between principals to improve student achievement.
- Supporting more than 7,500 teacher candidates by providing workshops at all 13 faculties of education through the Building Futures program.
- Providing targeted, specific supports to over 7,000 beginning teachers through the new Teacher Induction Program to improve student learning.
- Supporting about 150 teacher professional learning and sharing projects benefiting over 750 participants through the Teacher Learning and Leadership Program.

- Partnering with three large boards to support identified schools through the Student Success School Support initiative. The focus is working directly with school administrators to enhance their instructional leadership practices.

KEY INVESTMENTS

- Investing \$19.2 billion in education, an increase of \$865 million over the previous year. This represents an increase of \$4.5 billion or 30 per cent since 2002-03.
- Investing \$1.2 billion in Ontario's French-language schools in 2008-09, an increase of six per cent from the previous year.
- Increasing funding for First Nation, Métis and Inuit education initiatives from \$12.1 million to \$18.8 million.
- Increasing funding for special education to \$2.20 billion, an increase of \$104.3 million from the previous year.
- Increasing funding for rural Ontario school boards to \$3.47 billion, an increase of \$131.3 million from the previous year.

OTHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES

- Repairing, rebuilding and expanding hundreds of schools through the Good Places to Learn initiative.
- Creating 266 new good quality and affordable child care spaces for francophone families.
- Opening 34 additional Parenting and Family Literacy Centres in schools in high-needs communities.
- Making TFO, the province's French-language educational television station, permanently independent.
- Funding 160 more library staff over the next four years.
- Taking steps to address the impact of declining student enrolment in Ontario schools.
- Creating the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Permanent Task Force on French-Language Continued Education to provide advice on issues related to French-language education from early childhood education to postsecondary education and training.
- Supporting over 1,250 school council projects and over 45 regional/provincial projects through Parents Reaching Out Grants that support enhanced parent engagement at the local, regional and provincial levels.
- Embedding environmental education in all courses in the curriculum.
- Piloting high school courses about environmental science in selected schools.
- Expanding the collaborative service delivery models from eight participating school boards to 22 to support students with autism.
- Improving school board guidelines on the admission, welcoming and support for students in French-language schools.

Ministry Expenditures

	Ministry Actual Expenditures (\$M) 2008/09
Operating	*13,160.7
Capital	14.8
Staff Strength (as of March 31, 2009)	** 2138

Note: *Includes Statutory Appropriations, Bad Debt expense, and reconciliation adjustments but does not include consolidation adjustments. This number is based on Interim Actuals, and final actual expenditures will be stated in the 2008-09 Public Accounts.

**This number includes seasonal staff and students.