

Ministry of Education

The Literacy and Numeracy
Secretariat

900 Bay Street
Mowat Block, 10th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Telephone (416) 325-9955
Facsimile (416) 325-8565

Ministère de l'Éducation

Le Secrétariat de la littératie
et de la numératie

900, rue Bay
Édifice Mowat, 10^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Téléphone (416) 325-9955
Télécopieur (416) 325-8565



MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers and Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities
Director of the Provincial Schools Branch
Supervisory Officer of Centre Jules-Leger

FROM: Avis Glaze
Chief Achievement Officer/CEO,
Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat

DATE: October 12, 2006

SUBJECT: Provincial Symposium: Oct. 15th and 16th, 2006
*Finding Common Ground:
Character Development in Ontario Schools, K-12*

Finding Common Ground: Character Development in Ontario Schools, K-12, is a provincial symposium, that will be held on October 15th and 16th, 2006. It begins at 6:00 PM on Sunday and continues all day Monday, beginning at 8:30 AM.

Participants from a wide cross-section of Ontarians will come together to provide input into a proposed paper and discuss the key concepts and principles associated with the character development initiative. They will also share successful practices already underway in Ontario's Catholic and public schools.

We are delighted to share this experience with you in your schools and boards. Educators from across the province will be able to view keynote speakers live through streaming web casts. As well, selected sessions will be archived for follow-up viewing across the province through the video-on-demand option. Specific details will be posted on the site as they become available.

Please share this information with your colleagues and encourage them to join us at www.curriculum.org to hear from a variety of well-respected international and local experts in the field of character development. Keynote speakers will highlight research, innovative approaches and effective practices in the area of character development.

Speakers will include:

- The Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education
- Craig Kielburger, Free the Children
- Justin Trudeau, Education, Environment and Youth Advocate
- Dr. Philip Fitch Vincent, Character Development Group
- Dr. Merle Schwartz, Character Education Partnership, and
- Dr. Marvin Berkowitz, Researcher, University of Missouri.

We recognize the many good practices and initiatives currently in our boards and schools and the need to build upon them.

Please encourage teachers, principals and schools staff to participate in this initiative on the days of the symposium or at their convenience by visiting the archived sessions at www.curriculum.org/. We look forward to learning together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Avis Glaze".

Avis Glaze

Cc: EDU Assistant Deputy Ministers
EDU District Office Managers
LNS Student Achievement Officers
CODE Executive Director
OPC Executive Director
CPCO Executive Director
ADFO Executive Director
ETFO General Secretary
OECTA General Secretary
AEFO General Secretary
Dean, Faculties of Education