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**MEMORANDUM TO:** Directors of Education, School Boards  
Secretary-Treasurers, School Authorities

**FROM:** Don Young  
Director  
Information Management Branch

**DATE:** January 19, 2007

**SUBJECT:** MISA Memo 24  
**Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA)**  
Access to Supplementary Funding for 2006-07

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I'm writing to update you on the status of the MISA initiative and to make you aware of some additional funding that your school board or authority may access to help defray the costs associated with your MISA Local Capacity Building activities for the period April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007.

I am pleased to report that significant progress is being made by school boards as they address the challenges and opportunities associated with the MISA initiative. Sound leadership has emerged throughout the sector as teachers, principals and board administrators develop and implement strategies to promote a healthy data culture as a necessary prerequisite for effective data use. MISA Professional Network Centres have developed links to the research community and continue to promote collaborative efforts and the sharing of best practices. As such, they are an important part of the overall strategy to help improve student achievement through the use of data and information.

While significant progress is being made, we need to ensure that data is now available to track and report on student achievement, assist policy and program development, inform instructional practice and support the funding model. In this regard, it is imperative that OnSIS data submissions to the ministry are finalized.

We have listened carefully to the concerns that you have raised about OnSIS. In particular, you have noted unforeseen costs related to technology and data management activities. You have also indicated that the focus on OnSIS has delayed activity on other important MISA items. We are prepared to help boards further with the costs associated with the above activities during this transition period, based on a clear indication of tangible progress on your OnSIS data submission activities. More specifically, supplementary MISA funding is being made available to school boards and authorities that have completed and signed-off their 2005-06 student data submissions to OnSIS by February 20, 2007.

Supplementary funding reflects a base amount for each board or authority coupled with an enrolment factor.. Consistent with past practice, MISA Local Capacity Building activities related to technology, data management and data use, and human resources may be supported with these supplementary funds. This includes activities related to OnSIS readiness. MISA eligible expenditures must be incurred between April 1, 2006 and March 31, 2007.

For your school board, supplementary funding in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is available to support MISA eligible expenditures, subject to the final submission and complete sign-off of your 2005-06 OnSIS student data no later than February 20, 2007. A report on the current status of your 2005-06 OnSIS submission activity is appended (Appendix A).

Should you wish to access this supplementary funding, please print and endorse two copies of the attached amended Transfer Payment Agreement (Appendix B) and return both copies to the ministry (care of Charlotte Ward, Information Management Branch) as soon as possible, and no later than February 20, 2007. The agreement must be accompanied by your Amended Financial Forecast document which should reference how your total MISA allocations for 2006-07 will be applied to eligible MISA activities. No changes to the Forecast will be accepted after February 20, 2007. The Forecast should be emailed directly to [Charlotte.Ward@Ontario.ca](mailto:Charlotte.Ward@Ontario.ca). Once we have received both documents and your signed-off 2005-06 OnSIS student data, your supplementary funding allocation to support MISA eligible expenditures will be approved.

Thank you again for your ongoing commitment to the MISA initiative. Charlotte Ward may be contacted directly at (416) 327-4255 should your staff have any questions concerning the administration of this funding.

*Original signed by Don Young*

Don Young  
Director  
Information Management Branch

Attach. (2) – Appendix A - OnSIS 2005-06 Student Data Submission Activity  
Appendix B - Amended Transfer Payment Agreement

cc. MISA Leaders  
OnSIS Contacts  
Senior Business Officials