

Ministry of Education
16th Floor
Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1L2
Telephone (416) 325-2500
Fax (416) 325-2575

Ministère de l'Éducation
16^e étage
Édifce Mowat
900, rue Bay
Toronto (Ontario)
M7A 1L2
Téléphone (416) 325-2500
Télécopieur (416) 325-2575

MEMORANDUM TO : Directors of Education
Deans of Faculties of Education
Fred Porter, Supervisory Officer
North Eastern Ontario School Authorities
Beth Davies, Director
Provincial Schools

FROM : Sue Durst
Director
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch

Kirsten Parker
Director
Student Success/Learning to 18 Implementation, Training and
Evaluation Branch

DATE : January 12, 2007

SUBJECT : **Supports for Student Success in Mathematics, Grades 7 to 12**

1. Provincial Conference, *Connecting Practice and Research in Mathematics Education: Action ⇔ Engagement*, February 19-20, 2007;
2. Local/Regional Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers of Mathematics, Grades 7 to 12;
3. Regional Training on Revised Senior Mathematics for Board PD Providers.

We are pleased to inform you of the Ministry's plan to provide, between January and May 2007, multi-faceted support for improving mathematics instruction in Grades 7-12 mathematics. This plan is part of Phase 3 of our Student Success/Learning to 18 initiative. We know that it is important to collaborate with boards in our efforts to reach every student.

We will once again host a Provincial Conference, *Connecting Practice and Research in Mathematics Education: Action ⇔ Engagement*, for board planners/leaders and faculty of education representatives, provide funds for regional professional development for teachers and instructors, and provide regional training on the revised senior mathematics curriculum for PD providers and instructors. This memo provides information about all three activities.

1. Provincial Conference for Board Level Planners/Leaders, *Connecting Practice and Research in Mathematics Education: Action ↔ Engagement*, February 19-20, 2007

Research findings, new support materials, and newly licensed software will be shared and showcased at a provincial conference February 19th and 20th, 2007, at the Marriott Eaton Centre Hotel in Toronto. All of these supports address criteria for improving mathematics instruction outlined in the Student Success action plan template. It is recommended that board teams include personnel who have an active role in board-level strategic planning including: mathematics leads, IT leads, the board's Student Success Leader, curriculum superintendent(s), Special Education and English language learner resource leads so that this team can plan how to incorporate the information they receive into the board's Action Plan for Student Success: Mathematical Literacy. It is recommended that teams from faculties of education include mathematics education researchers and Grades 7-12 mathematics instructors.

Please find enclosed the registration form for the Provincial Conference.

2. Local/Regional Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers

We are also providing funding to regional banker boards to support professional learning activities for teachers in Grades 7-12 mathematics and literacy. This funding will be based on:

- A base amount per board regardless of the size of the board;
- A prorated amount based on the numbers of schools with students in Grades 7-12;
- A prorated amount based on distances within the board.

Regional offices will communicate the planning process for disbursement of these professional development funds. The activities themselves can be organized at school, family of schools, board, coterminous board, and/or regional levels. Regional offices will communicate with Student Success Leaders regarding the parameters around use of the funds to support math or literacy along with the amount of your board's allocation.

A range of available professional learning supports that could be used in these local/regional sessions in mathematics will be showcased at the February 19-20 provincial conference. A range of professional learning supports in literacy, including Think Literacy and boys' literacy, will also be made available at a later date.

3. Regional Training on Revised Senior Mathematics for Board PD Providers

In light of the release of the Mathematics, Grade 12 revised curriculum, regional training in Grade 11 and 12 revised Mathematics curriculum will be provided for board mathematics PD providers. This training in the spring, 2007, will focus on implementation of the revised Grade 11 and 12 mathematics curriculum policy. A schedule of dates and locations along with registration information will be communicated to Directors of Education and Deans of Faculties of Education through Regional Offices. Results of this funding will be reported in boards' Annual Action Plans.

As you can see, we have an ambitious agenda for implementing the revised curriculum and improving instruction in Grades 7-12 mathematics. We thank you in advance for your efforts to ensure that your board is well represented at each of these three activities supporting student success in mathematics.



Sue Durst



Kirsten Parker

c.c. Student Success Leaders
George Zegarac, ADM, Strategic Planning and Elementary/Secondary Programs Division
Kit Rankin, Director, Field Services Branch
Managers, Regional Offices