

Ministry of Education

Ministère de l'Éducation

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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities
Director of Provincial and Demonstration Schools

FROM: Kevin Costante
Deputy Minister

DATE: December 1, 2011

SUBJECT: Ontario Schools, Kindergarten to Grade 12, Policy and Program Requirements (OS), 2011

Attached to this memo please find an electronic version of the new policy document, *Ontario Schools, Kindergarten to Grade 12: Policy and Program Requirements (OS)* which sets out the requirements of the Ministry that govern the policies and programs of all elementary and secondary schools in Ontario. This single comprehensive policy document is intended to assist school and school board administrators in ensuring consistent implementation of the policy framework in place to support student success. Although OS is intended for school and school board administrators, it will also be of interest within the broader educational community.

OS replaces *Ontario Secondary Schools, Grades 9 to 12: Program and Diploma Requirements (OSS), 1999*. Whereas *OSS* outlined policy direction only for secondary schools, *OS* has been developed to consolidate in one document the broad range of policies and programs that affect the educational experience of students in Ontario schools from Kindergarten to Grade 12. It reflects the continuity of education policy governing programs for all students, from entry to school to graduation. No new policy is being announced through this policy document.

Part One of the document outlines the policy and program requirements that pertain to both elementary and secondary schools, and Part Two focuses on the policy and program requirements that apply only to secondary schools. Where appropriate, policies outlined in *OSS* have been adjusted to encompass both elementary and secondary schools, and all requirements have been updated and supplemented to reflect changes in legislation and new policy directions introduced since *OSS* was released in 1999.

Many of the policy and program requirements outlined in *OS* are described in detail in other, dedicated policy documents. In such cases, *OS* gives a brief description of the policy or program requirements in question, and provides references to the relevant documents. Where appropriate, references to relevant legislation, regulations, policy/program memoranda, and/or policy documents are provided in a box at the end of a text section. Resources identified in policy

documents as necessary for implementation are also included. The online version of OS, available at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/policy/os/index.html>, provides active links to these documents.

Please share this information with school administrators and superintendents in your board.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Kevin Costante

Attachment

- c. Mary Jean Gallagher, ADM, Student Achievement Division
Raymond Théberge, ADM, French Language, Aboriginal Learning and Research
Division
EDU Regional Managers
Student Success Leaders
Student Achievement Officers