

Ministry of Education

900 Bay St
Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Telephone (416) 325-2600
Facsimile (416) 327-1182

Ministère de l'Éducation

900, rue Bay
Idifice Mowat
Queens Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Téléphone (416) 324-2600
Télécopieur (416) 327-1182



MEMORANDUM TO : Directors of Education
Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities
Superintendents of Education
Secondary School Principals
Elementary School Principals
Principals of Provincial & Demonstration Schools
Principals of Inspected Private Secondary Schools
Principal of the Independent Learning Centre

FROM : Eleanor Newman
Assistant Deputy Minister (A)
Student Achievement Division

Raymond Théberge
Assistant Deputy Minister
French Language, Aboriginal Learning and Research Division

DATE : June 26, 2009

SUBJECT : **Education Policy and Program Update to June 30, 2009**

The purpose of this memo is to inform you of a new resource guide developed by the Ministry that provides a summary of the changes to secondary school policy, program and diploma requirements currently described in *Ontario Secondary Schools (OSS), Grades 9 to 12: Program and Diploma Requirement (1999)* and lists other policy and program changes and recent initiatives and resources that impact elementary and secondary schools.

This resource is intended to help bridge the gap for teachers and administrators until the release of a new Kindergarten to Grade 12 school policy document which will reflect a coherent vision for education in the province across the elementary and secondary panels. On the advice from key stakeholders, we are taking additional time to develop and consult on this new document including having the Curriculum Council, at the request of the Minister, offer advice on the K – 8 portion of this new document.

Part A of this resource is structured to parallel the Table of Contents of OSS:99. Changes are identified under the headings of sections of OSS:99 to which they relate. Unless a change is indicated, all other provisions outlined in any given section of OSS:99 remain in effect, unchanged.

Part B of this document identifies policies and programs introduced since 1999 that affect all schools from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Part C outlines a selection of recent initiatives and resources that do not represent new policy but have an impact on, and support the efforts of Ontario schools.

This resource has been designed with the end-user in mind. As of June 29, the resource will be posted on the Ministry website at www.edu.gov.on.ca and each policy change, program and/or recent initiative listed in it includes the relevant source document(s) and web-link. The guide on the website will be updated twice per year, in December and June, if required, to ensure that the web version is current. This process will continue up until the time when the new Kindergarten to Grade 12 policy document is released.

We have printed a limited number of hard-copies of this resource and you will be receiving a copy sent to your attention the last week of August. Secondary School Principals will be receiving 5 copies and Elementary School Principals 3 copies to share with the appropriate members of their staff. A limited number of additional hard copies will be available for order by the end of July through Publications Ontario at www.publications.serviceontario.ca

Eleanor Newman
Assistant Deputy Minister (A)
Student Achievement Division

Raymond Théberge
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French Language, Aboriginal Learning and
Research Division

c: EDU Regional Managers
School Board Student Success Leaders
School Board School Effectiveness Leaders
Chief Executive Officer, EQAO