

2006:B5

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Secretary-Treasurers and Supervisory Officers, School Authorities

FROM: Nancy Naylor
Assistant Deputy Minister
Elementary/Secondary
Business and Finance Division

Aryeh Gitterman
Assistant Deputy Minister
Instruction and Leadership
Development Division

DATE: March 29, 2006

SUBJECT: MISA Memo # 19
Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA)

- Revised Data Submission Schedule
- Reconciling OnSIS and Legacy Data
- Class Size Data

A new web-enabled data collection system, the Ontario School Information System (OnSIS), is now being implemented as part of the MISA initiative. This initiative will make the data collection process more streamlined and effective and will result in enhanced data analysis capacity at all levels. Release 2 of OnSIS was launched on January 23, 2006. Over three-quarters of the school boards are now entering data into OnSIS. We wish to thank you and your staff for the tremendous work that has been done to deal with all of the challenges associated with moving over to this new data collection system.

Revised Data Submission schedule

Certain boards have indicated that they are encountering significant challenges related to data cleansing and reconciliation. The Ministry is also in the process of addressing some issues concerning OnSIS summary reports. These report issues should be resolved shortly. In consideration of the above challenges, the submission period for the first collection of OnSIS Release 2 has been extended. We would like to request that all data that was to have been submitted by March 10, 2006 now be submitted by May 1, 2006. The submission dates for the March and June collections have also been extended. We have enclosed a revised OnSIS data submission schedule for your reference (Appendix A).

Reconciling OnSIS and Legacy Data

As this is the transition year for OnSIS, similar data is being collected through our legacy applications. OnSIS will be the authoritative data source for funding on a moving forward basis and it is important from a data integrity standpoint that your OnSIS and Legacy submissions reconcile in this transition year.

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Class Size Data

During the fall of 2005, the Ministry asked all boards to promptly report the October MR reports, in particular the October Elementary School Reports, for the purposes of collecting timely class size data. Your cooperation was greatly appreciated.

As a result, the Average Class Size Report for the elementary panel was not required, as stated in Memo SB24 dated October 7, 2005 from the Transfer Payments and Financial Reporting Branch. Memo SB24 also indicated that a decision would be made in 2006 as to whether the Average Class Size Report for the secondary panel would be required for 2005-2006. We now confirm that the Average Class Size Report for the secondary panel will be collected, as was communicated to you in Memorandum SB 4 on March 7, 2006.

For the purposes of collecting secondary class size data through OnSIS, the definitions and calculations used by OnSIS are consistent with those contained in the document *Average Class Size, Guide to Reporting, October 2004*, as published by TPF RB.

Sincerely,

Original signed

Nancy Naylor
Assistant Deputy Minister
Elementary/Secondary
Business and Finance Division

Original signed

Aryeh Gitterman
Assistant Deputy Minister
Instruction and Leadership
Development Division

Encl.

CC: Assistant Deputy Ministers
Chief Student Achievement Officer & CEO, Literacy & Numeracy Secretariat
CIO, Community Services I&IT Cluster
Branch Directors
Regional Managers, Field Services Branch
Executive Assistant, Deputy Minister's Office
MISA Leaders
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Frank Kelly, Executive Director Council of Ontario Directors of Education
Allen Pearson, Chair Ontario Association of Deans of Education
Doug Acton, President Ontario Principals' Council
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