MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers and Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities
Director of the Provincial Schools Branch
Supervisory Officers of Centre Jules-Leger

FROM: Avis Glaze
Chief Student Achievement Officer and CEO
The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat

DATE: May 2, 2007

SUBJECT: Support Resource: Combined Grades: Strategies to Reach a Range of Learners in Kindergarten to Grade 6

The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat is pleased to make a new resource entitled Combined Grades: Strategies to Reach a Range of Learners in Kindergarten to Grade 6 available to school boards and elementary schools.

This resource document provides strategies to support teachers and administrators in the successful management of combined grades classes in Kindergarten to Grade 6. Throughout the resource, references are made to literacy and numeracy strategies outlined in other Ministry resources in order to make clear connections to effective approaches already being implemented in many schools and boards.

Every elementary school will be sent four copies and every district school board will be sent 20 copies of Combined Grades: Strategies to Reach a Range of Learners in Kindergarten to Grade 6. The resource document will also be available at www.edu.gov.on.ca.

Educators recognize that differences are regarded as assets in rich learning environments – learners have different linguistic, cultural, and social backgrounds and perspectives, interests and needs, as well as different skills. This resource provides a number of considerations and starting points in addressing the realities of teaching combined classes.
We look forward to continuing our efforts to improve achievement for all students. If you have any questions or feedback about this resource, please contact Judith Taylor at Judith.taylor@ontario.ca.

Avis E. Glaze

cc: EDU Deputy Minister  
EDU Assistant Deputy Ministers  
EDU District Office Managers  
LNS Student Achievement Officers  
CODE Executive Director  
OPC Executive Director  
CPCO Executive Director  
ADFO Executive Director  
ETFO General Secretary  
OECTA General Secretary  
AEFO General Secretary