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: March 22, 2007

SUBJECT: The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat – Summer Program 2007

As we continue to go deeper in our knowledge of effective teaching practice, we are making a difference collectively for more and more children. The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat will continue the commitment to working together with district school boards to build capacity by providing summer programs for teachers.

In 2006, participants in the Summer Program were asked to give feedback on the opportunities in the professional learning sessions for the following:

- building knowledge;
- collaborating with others;
- observing specific teaching strategies; and
- reflecting on teaching practice.

There was an overwhelmingly positive response from the respondents to the program as a whole. In summary, on each of the four criteria, at least 90% of the respondents gave the summer program a score of at least 4 out of 5. Comments illustrating the general feeling were, “this workshop has totally changed my definition of shared reading therefore my classroom management skills will change,” and “finally a workshop that put all the pieces together in an organized logical way.”

In 2007, we will again offer the highly successful program. Ontario teachers will be able to participate in a wide variety of workshops based on literacy and numeracy. Boards are encouraged to select workshops that best align with identified needs in their district.
The teacher feedback from the Summer Program 2006 indicated teachers want more opportunity to take part in workshops about differentiating instruction and assessment literacy, in both literacy and numeracy. Teachers in the junior division indicated they wanted more of the high quality practical workshops.

This program is also open to primary and junior teachers in school authorities. To register for participation, teachers in school authorities should contact the Lead Board for their area.

The Secretariat is grateful for the commitment of our partners in the school board. We look forward to working closely with you to promote and deliver exemplary professional development based on the support resources produced by the Ministry of Education.

We are deeply appreciative of the commitment and work of the Lead Boards. They continue to play a significant role in the ongoing implementation of the literacy and numeracy strategies. Lead Boards ensure that information is communicated to all of the boards in timely and consistent manner. We truly value this ongoing partnership.

You will be hearing from your Lead Board soon with information about the The Literacy and Numeracy Summer Program 2007.

If you have any questions, please contact Judith Taylor at judith.taylor@ontario.ca Again, thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to work to meet our shared goal of high achievement for every child.

Avis E. Glaze

cc: 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