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

FROM: Nancy Naylor Aryeh Gitterman
Assistant Deputy Minister Assistant Deputy Minister
Elementary/Secondary Instruction and Leadership
Business and Finance Division Development Division

DATE: June 23, 2006

SUBJECT: MISA Memo #20
Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA)

• Legacy and OnSIS Data
• Local Capacity Funding

School boards have asked for clarification on which system, Ontario School Information System (OnSIS) or Legacy, will be used for supporting Grants for Student Needs calculations during this transition year. For the 2005-06 school year, the ministry will be using data in the Legacy system for this purpose. OnSIS data for this year will be utilized for program and policy matters, including public reporting.

The ministry will be issuing a SB memorandum within the next few days outlining the enrolment confirmation process for purposes of the 2005-06 financial statements. The process will be similar to last year and boards will be expected to review and confirm their enrolment information by August 15, 2006.

Significant progress is being made by school boards in completing their 2005-06 OnSIS data submissions and we would like to acknowledge the hard work and effort by you and your staff in this regard. MISA Memo #19/ BMemo 5, sent on March 29, 2006, referred to the importance of reconciling OnSIS and Legacy data. Given the challenges of this transition year the ministry will accept minor discrepancies with OnSIS data when compared to Legacy data. We trust this will allow boards the needed flexibility to complete their OnSIS 2005-06 submissions by the end of the summer.

The ministry is proceeding with OnSIS implementation plans and will retire the Legacy system at the end of the 2005-06 school year. Accordingly, OnSIS will be the sole authoritative data source for 2006-07 on a moving forward basis.
Local Capacity Funding

In Year One, approximately $23M in new funding was provided to school boards to support plans to build capacity to work with data. MISA Year Two Local Capacity Building Plans are currently being reviewed by ministry staff. We hope to be in a position to communicate final allocations by July.

In this regard, it is important to ensure that sufficient attention has been paid to supporting the timely submission of OnSIS data. For example, MISA Local Capacity funding can be used to support the cleansing and entering of data into OnSIS. Please note that we will not be in a position to allocate Year Two MISA funding until an acceptable plan is received for the completion of your OnSIS data submissions. A form has been prepared to support the communication of your OnSIS plan, a copy of which is appended. This form can be accessed on the government web site http://calendar.edu.gov.on.ca/ReportingCalendar.htm. Staff will be in touch with your MISA Leaders and OnSIS contacts imminently to outline the requirements and provide whatever assistance they can to help ensure that an effective strategy is in place. Our intent is to support you through every phase of this challenging transition.

Again, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support of the MISA initiative.

Sincerely,

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

Original signed by
Aryeh Gitterman
Assistant Deputy Minister
Instruction and Leadership Development Division

Enclosure
c:  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
    MISA Advisory Committee Members
    Frank Kelly, Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education
    Pat Rogers, Chair, Ontario Association of Deans of Education
    Ian McFarlane, President, Ontario Principals’ Council
    Paul Carr, President, Catholic Principals’ Council of Ontario
    Claire Thibideau, Président, l’Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco ontariennes
    Superintendents of Business