Superintendents with responsibility for the supervision of a family of schools play a key role in improving student achievement. Through their instructional leadership and supervision they provide essential pressure and support to facilitate continuous improvement in schools. Over the past few months superintendents with responsibility for supervising schools have told me that there is a need for on-going professional learning opportunities that will support their work in schools.

As a result of those discussions the Student Achievement Division, in partnership with the French-Language Education Policies and Programs Branch and the Ministry’s regional offices, is pleased to invite you and your family of schools superintendents, and any other supervisory officers you feel appropriate, to a professional learning session that will focus on the critical role of the family of schools superintendent. This session will provide an opportunity for supervisory officers to:

- Reflect upon and share effective practices when working with a family of schools;
- Benefit from lessons learned across the province;
- Discuss the development of family of schools as effective professional learning communities;
- Explore the differentiation of supports and resources and;
- Examine and critique school improvement planning.
The sessions will run from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the following locations:

May 8 – Toronto Region
May 12 – Ottawa Region
May 13 – Barrie Region
May 21 – Thunder Bay Region (10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
May 27 – London Region
June 4 – Sudbury/ North Bay Region (Session in Sault Ste. Marie, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)
June 4 – French Language Boards (Session to be held in Toronto)

Across the province many outstanding capacity building sessions have been held regionally and it is our intent to work with the regional offices to build upon this solid foundation.

We would ask your assistance in encouraging your supervisory officers to take part in this professional learning opportunity. More detailed information will be sent to you in April with the name of the venue, the overview of the day and any materials that the participants will need to bring. Please forward the list of participants from your board to Maria Fortino at maria.fortino@ontario.ca by April 14, 2009.

Thank you for your support of this initiative.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Mary Jean Gallagher

Cc:   EDU Deputy Minister
      EDU Assistant Deputy Ministers
      Regional Managers
      SAO Field Team Leaders