

Ministry of Education

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To: Directors of Education

From: Mary Jean Gallagher
Chief Student Achievement Officer of Ontario
Assistant Deputy-Minister
Student Achievement Division

Raymond Théberge
Assistant Deputy Minister
French-Language, Aboriginal Learning & Research Division

Date: April 26, 2010

Re: The School Effectiveness Framework – A Support for School Improvement and Student Success

Thank you for the work you continue to do increasing student achievement and success. The Board Improvement Plan and the School Effectiveness Framework are key tools to assist you in this work. At the request of a number of boards and schools we have been working to develop a School Effectiveness Framework which addresses the needs of both elementary and secondary schools. The purpose of this memo is to provide you with current revisions to this K-12 School Effectiveness Framework. Attached is a revised draft of Part Two (Components, Indicators and Some Sources of Evidence) for your use as you move ahead with your 2010-11 improvement planning.

The SEF is a collaborative effort. From January to May 2009, a ministry working group held consultations across the province to gather feedback regarding the components and indicators of a K - 12 School Effectiveness Framework (K-12 SEF). The initial draft was shared with School Effectiveness Leads and Student Success Leaders last spring. Subsequently, continued and ongoing consultations both informal and formal were held with: the Student Achievement Division Working Table; directors; supervisory officers; principals; board and school teams, including teachers, consultants and support staff. We thank your staff for their valuable input which has informed the K-12 SEF working group in revising the indicators and providing some sources of evidence to align the SEF document with current initiatives and priorities.

You will receive the complete K-12 SEF document at the end of August. It will include:

- Part One Overview- Philosophy and Expectations
- Part Two Components, Indicators and Some Sources of Evidence
- Part Three Glossary
- Part Four Bibliography

For the coming school year, we ask that the SEF be used by all elementary and secondary schools as a resource for school self-assessment that engages teachers and the school community in improvement planning processes.

School self-assessment is a prerequisite for effective district review when others join with the school team to see evidence of and to add value to the work of the school team. Elementary schools have been engaged in district reviews for a number of years. In 2010-11, elementary school reviews will continue using the revised SEF.

Many secondary schools already use the SEF as a resource for district reviews. In 2010-11, we ask that school boards work with partners to develop or refine processes for secondary school district reviews using the revised SEF. The minimum expectation for the coming year is that within each board, a few secondary schools that are ready to benefit from the process will participate in the district review.

At the meeting of School Effectiveness and Student Success Leaders on May 5th we will be working together connecting SEF assessments and improvement planning. We are encouraged by the energy and insights that these system leaders bring to aligning K-12 processes and practices. We are also impressed with the collaboration evident in the work of these two key improvement leaders in many boards.

We thank you for your ongoing leadership as we work together to ensure high levels of student achievement.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Mary Jean Gallagher

Raymond Théberge