MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities

FROM: Kirsten Parker
Director, Student Success/Learning to 18 Implementation,
Training and Evaluation Branch

Grant Clarke
Director, Student Success/Learning to 18 Strategic Planning Branch

Ginette Plourde
Director, French-Language Policy and Programs Branch

DATE: January 8, 2008

SUBJECT: Provincial Symposium for Student Success Leaders
February 27-29, 2008

We are pleased to advise you that we are holding our second Student Success Leaders Symposium of the 2007-2008 year on February 27-29, 2008 at the Toronto Eaton Centre Marriott. This Symposium plays a crucial role in supporting the Leaders and receiving their input in this important initiative.

We invite your Student Success Leader and a secondary school principal who is focussed on closing the achievement gap within his/her school. The focus of our work will be considering how to deepen implementation of strategies and practices that improve student achievement and student engagement. We will send Student Success Leaders a separate invitation that includes the on-line registration details and agenda. Boards with 20-50 high schools are encouraged to send one additional principal. Boards with more than 50 high schools may bring two additional principals. Please know that the invitation is always extended to you. However, we understand that your schedules may not permit you to join us.

The interactive symposium will address school improvement strategies, provincial data from 2006-07, Lighthouse projects, Specialist High Skills Majors, dual credits and school improvement activities and the work of Dr. Douglas Reeves. Participants will have an opportunity to provide input regarding future direction of the Student Success Initiative.
As was done in previous symposia, we will feature one “Promising Practices” workshop; the theme is practices that have made a difference. Student Success Leaders have received proposal applications and are encouraged to submit their applications soon. These workshops will be led by Student Success Leaders and/or their representative. The ministry will assume the expenses for presenters.

Thank you for your continued support of this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Parker     Grant Clarke     Ginette Plourde

c: Kit Rankin, Director, Field Services Branch
    Regional District Managers
    Regional EOs
    Student Success Leaders