MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

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

       Ginette Plourde
       Director
       French-Language Education and Educational Operations

DATE: January 5, 2009

SUBJECT: Student Success Leaders Regional Sessions and Symposia

In October 2008, a very successful Student Success Leader symposium was held in Toronto on the theme of leading school improvement with a focus on effective schools. The next symposium, which was originally scheduled for the spring, will now be postponed until the fall: September 29th to October 1st, 2009. We will be sending you more information about this symposium in the near future.

Since the inception of the Student Success Strategy, the Symposia have provided SSLs with the opportunity to network, share promising practices, and collaborate with other SSLs on closing performance gaps and improving student achievement. In order to maintain this very worthwhile collaboration until the Fall Symposium, Student Success Leaders in each Region will be encouraged to network with other boards in a variety of other ways: by hosting Student Success sessions, by organizing conference calls/video conferencing, and by sharing through Adobe Connect sessions. This will give SSLs and their Board teams the opportunity to share and communicate effective Student Success strategies with their colleagues in other boards.

When SSLs choose to conduct professional learning and networking with other boards, they are asked to hold the training in their own board facilities and to assume costs for transportation and accommodation using their existing Student Success funds.

We look forward to communicating with you and your SSLs regularly during the remainder of this school year. We also assure you that the Ministry will continue to support your Student Success initiatives directly from our respective branches and the regional education offices.
Thank you very much for your ongoing support of the Student Success Strategy.

Yours truly,

Kirsten Parker  
Ginette Plourde

c: Student Success Leaders  
Regional Managers  
Regional EOs  
Richard Franz, Director (A), Student Success Learning to 18 – Strategic Policy Branch  
Kit Rankin, Director, Field Services Branch