MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Karen Gill
Director
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch

DATE: July 10, 2014

SUBJECT: REVISIONS TO ELEMENTARY PROVINCIAL REPORT CARD TEMPLATES

The purpose of this memo is to inform you of revisions to the following Provincial Report Card templates that will be implemented in the 2014-15 school year:

- Elementary Provincial Report Card, Grades 1-6 - Public Schools,
- Elementary Provincial Report Card, Grades 1-6 - Roman Catholic Schools,
- Elementary Provincial Report Card, Grades 7 and 8 - Public Schools, and
- Elementary Provincial Report Card, Grades 7 and 8 - Roman Catholic Schools.

As you are aware, Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting in Ontario Schools, First Edition, Grades 1 to 12, 2010 includes Provincial Report Card templates to be used by all provincially funded schools. Since 2010 revised curriculum policy documents for Social Studies, Grades 1 to 6; History and Geography, Grades 7 and 8 (2013) and French as a Second Language: Core French, Grades 4 to 8, Extended French, Grades 4 to 8, and French Immersion, Grades 1 to 8 (2013) have been released for mandatory implementation in fall 2014. The strands identified on the revised Provincial Report Cards align with revisions in these curriculum policy documents.

In addition the current elementary Provincial Report Cards do not allow for the identification of which, if any, of the four strands in the Arts may be taught in French. An additional optional “French” box is now available to indicate this distinction in the Arts, as appropriate.

The appendix to this memo details the revisions to each report card template in addition to providing direction for completing the revised Elementary Provincial Report Cards.

There are no changes to the Elementary Progress Report Card or the Secondary Provincial Report Cards, Grades 9 to 12 at this time.
The revised Elementary Provincial Report Card templates are being sent for distribution to your Student Information System coordinators and others, as appropriate.

Vendors are aware of the revisions to the Elementary Provincial Report Card templates through the technical specifications and business rules established by the Education Statistics and Analysis Branch, OnSIS.

Please share this Memo with Superintendents, Student Information System coordinators, Principals and other affected parties in the board. If there are any questions, please contact: John Ryall, Manager, Assessment and Reporting Unit, Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch at 416-325-2510.

Sincerely,

Original signed

Karen Gill
Director
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch

cc. Grant Clarke, Assistant Deputy Minister, Learning and Curriculum Division
Janine Grifflore, Assistant Deputy Minister, French Language, Aboriginal Learning and Research Division
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APPENDIX

REVISIONS TO ELEMENTARY PROVINCIAL REPORT CARDS 2014

Reporting French as a Second Language in Elementary Grades

Current Growing Success, 2010 policy requires teachers of French as a Second Language in elementary grades to report on each strand of the curriculum separately. Teachers are instructed to “Fill in the letter grade/percentage mark for each strand that is part of the student’s instructional program in the column headed Report 1 or Report 2, as appropriate. If a particular strand is not part of the student’s program during that reporting period, indicate this in the comments and leave the grade/mark column blank.” p. 57.

In 2013 the revised Ontario curriculum for French as a Second Language was released. One revision was to change the three strands (Oral Communication, Reading, Writing) to four distinct but interrelated strands (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing). The current Provincial Report Card does not align with that revision. The 2014 Revised Provincial Report Card includes the revised strand names that teachers must use in their assessment and reporting.

The statement in Growing Success remains unchanged since teachers must still report “a letter grade/percentage mark for each strand” however; the revised Provincial Report Cards Grades 1-6 and Grades 7-8 will reflect the four strands, Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing that must be considered in assessment and reporting.

Reporting Social Studies, History and Geography in Elementary Grades

The current Provincial Report Card templates identify the two strands in the social studies, history and geography curriculum (Heritage and Citizenship, Canada and World Connections). In 2013 the revised Ontario curriculum for Social Studies Grades 1 to 6; History and Geography, Grades 7 and 8 was released. One revision was to change the names of the strands to Heritage and Identity, and People and Environments. The revised Provincial Report Cards Grades 1-6 reflect that revision.

The statement in Growing Success for the reporting of Social Studies remains unchanged (Grades 1 to 6), “Fill in the student’s letter grade for social studies in the column headed Report 1 or Report 2, as appropriate. In the space provided for comments, indicate which strands are being reported in the given period” (p. 58).

The statement in Growing Success for the reporting of History and Geography (Grades 7 and 8) remains unchanged, “Fill in the student’s percentage mark for history and/or geography in the column headed Report 1 or Report 2, as appropriate. When students are instructed in only one of history or geography for the reporting period, parents should be informed at the beginning of the reporting period. If either history or geography is not part of the student’s program for Report 1 or Report 2, this should be noted in the comments, and the appropriate “NA” box should be checked. Achievement in both history and geography must be reported at least once in the school year, in either Report 1 or Report 2” (p. 58).
Reporting the Arts in Elementary Grades

The 2010 Provincial Report Card templates for Grades 1 to 8 provide a separate reporting box for each of the four Arts (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts). There is one box provided to indicate if The Arts are taught in French. It is not possible to indicate if some Art subjects are taught in French while others are not.

The revised Provincial Report Card includes a separate French box with each of the four Arts. The statement in Growing Success remains unchanged, “Check this box if the student is enrolled in an immersion or extended French program and receives instruction in French for the subject/strand” (p. 59).