MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Ben Levin
Deputy Minister

DATE: March 12, 2009

RE: School Information Finder

Dear Colleagues,

In a few weeks, a new tool will be available to the public on the Ministry of Education website, as noted in George Zegarac’s memo of December 10, 2008.

The School Information Finder will allow parents to search online for schools in a variety of ways, and it will provide profiles of each school with information about the school itself, its students and their achievement. Users will also be able to compare the data for up to three schools at a time.

As you are aware, the ministry is committed to reporting and using data to inform decision-making and make improvements in education. The School Information Finder will provide the public with valuable information about Ontario schools. And we believe that greater transparency, accountability and openness will increase public confidence in Ontario’s education system.

Each school profile will include:
- Basic information about the school (address, contact information, enrolment)
- Student achievement information (EQAO scores and trends)
- Student information (language data, special education data, and information about parental income and education)
- Primary class size information (elementary schools only)

Each school profile will also include links to the school and school board websites (where available), so I encourage you to make sure that your websites are up to date and contain valuable information for parents and students.
Currently, the **School Information Finder** is scheduled to be available for public use by the end of March. Prior to the public launch, I will send you a link so you can preview the site and become familiar with its contents.

Sincerely,

Ben Levin

c. Council of Ontario Directors of Education
   Conseil ontarien des directrices et des directeurs de l’éducation de langue française
   Ontario Public Supervisory Officers’ Association
   Association des gestionnaires de l’éducation franco-ontarienne
   Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers’ Association
   Ontario Principals’ Council
   Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes
   Catholic Principals’ Council of Ontario
   Regional Office Managers
   MISA Leaders
   Student Success Leaders