MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education Supervisory Officers and Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities

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

DATE: November 16, 2007

SUBJECT: Transition Planning and Implementation

The purpose of this memorandum is to let you know that the Ministry of Education is continuing its support of Grade 8 to Grade 9 Transition Planning and Implementation. To that end, we have designed a two-part series to allow flexibility in our work with your Student Success Leaders and board teams.

Part One is being coordinated with regional Education Officers and consists of a one hour discussion that includes the presentation of board and provincial data, a review of the Taking Stock Report 2007, overview of the Taking Stock Report 2008, and a “walk through” of new resources that will be distributed to Student Success Leaders prior to Part One. Resources will include a DVD on Transition with a facilitator’s guide. Session dates are as follows:

Sudbury - November 30 teleconference 9:00 – 10:00 am
London - November 30 meeting (in Ingersoll) 10:30-11:30 am
Ottawa - December 6 meeting (in Kingston) 10:30-11:30 am
Toronto - December 6 meeting (in Etobicoke) 1:00 – 2:00 pm
Thunder Bay – December 4 teleconference 9:00 - 10:00 am
Barrie - November 28 meeting (at Simcoe County DSB offices) 1:00 - 2:00 pm

SSLs are encouraged to work with their Transition Planning Team to identify a process whereby these resources can be shared with elementary and secondary principals and their staff.
Part Two is tentatively planned to be held by Adobe Connect so that, again, your board team can participate with minimal travel and time away from the board. This session will consist of reviewing the transition planning and implementation of the 2006-2007 school year, providing board teams the opportunity to demonstrate their progress in moving the initiative from the board to school levels, and preparing for next steps and sustainability. The composition of the Transition Planning team requested to participate early in 2008 would have identical roles as your board’s 2006 team (i.e., a Supervisory Officer, preferably of Program or Curriculum Services; a Secondary and Elementary School Principal; Student Success Leader; Special Education Resource representative and two Grade 7 and 8 Teachers, Grade 9 Teachers and Student Success Teachers).

Attached is a draft of this year’s Taking Stock Report as well as some questions that Student Success Leaders may use to gather input from Student Success Teams and teachers with whom they are meeting this fall. This input will help to inform our programming in Part Two of the Transition sessions.

Thank you in advance for your support of this Student Success initiative as part of the ministry’s ongoing priority to increase opportunities and support for greater numbers of young people to achieve success in secondary education.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Parker

Encl.

c: George Zegarac, ADM,
    Grant Clarke, Director, SSLSP
    Ginette Ploude, Director, FLEP
    Kit Rankin, Director, FSB
    Beth Davies, Director, PSB
    Regional Managers
    Regional EOs
    Student Success Leaders