MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education  
Secretary Treasurers of School Authorities

FROM: Elizabeth Harding  
Director  
Learning Environment Branch  
Ministry of Education

Stephen Waldie  
Director  
External Relations  
Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services

DATE: October 5, 2010

SUBJECT: Safe Schools Grant - Memo to all Chiefs of Police and OPP Commissioner Chris D. Lewis

The purpose of this memo is to inform you that the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS) has issued a memo to all Chiefs of Police and the OPP Commissioner to invite proposals from police service providers, for 2010/11, for the Safe Schools Grant – which focuses on establishing and/or enhancing multi-disciplinary teams to address the risk factors associated with school safety. Funding will be provided to police services by MCSCS.

Consistent with our Safe Schools Strategy, project proposals for the Safe Schools Grant will focus on increasing school safety through the establishment/enhancement of integrated teams that include school boards, educators, police, health care professionals, counsellors, parents and students.

A multi-disciplinary approach to threat/risk assessment can be an effective means of preventing and responding to situations that may negatively affect the safety for students and school staff. School boards and police can consider developing procedures to facilitate the timely sharing of information, collaborative planning, and implementation of effective interventions when they become aware of potential threat to school safety. This prevention strategy should involve community partners, child welfare agencies, mental health professionals, and court officials.

Successful applicants must include a letter of support from the local school board they will be working with. We encourage boards to participate in this program and to make their best effort to meet deadlines in providing letters of support.
Police services are required to submit their proposals to MCSCS by October 22, 2010.

If you have any questions please contact Susan Brown at (416) 212-7956 or at susan.brown@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your continued efforts in providing a safe and positive learning environment for students.

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Elizabeth Harding                   Stephen Waldie