

Ministry of Education

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Ministère de l'Éducation

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2015: B6

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities

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DATE: **March 29, 2012**

SUBJECT: **2012-13 Funding in addition to Grants for Student Needs**

The Ministry of Education is pleased to announce its 2012-13 projected funding outside the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) at the same time as the release of the GSN memorandum -more than five months before the beginning of the school year. This memorandum outlines initiatives funded through "Education Programs - Other" (EPO) and "Official Languages in Education" (OLE) transfer payments.

A separate memorandum to school boards outlining the 2012-13 school year allocations for the Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program will be forthcoming.

To facilitate your budget planning for the 2012-13 school year, we are pleased to confirm that the Ministry is allocating \$160.9 million to school boards and school authorities, in addition to funding provided through the GSN, to sustain supports to priority education initiatives. Within this amount:

- \$126.3 million has been allocated board by board in this memorandum; and
- \$34.6 million has been allocated by program, with board allocations to be confirmed later in the year.

Initiative (\$M)	Allocated	To be Allocated	Grand Total
Aboriginal Education - First Nation, Metis and Inuit (FNMI) Education Policy Framework Implementation	1.5	2.5	4.1
Autism Supports and TraininQ	3.0		3.0
Building Innovative Practice	0.5		0.5
Collaborative Inquiry for Learning - Mathematics	4.9		4.9
Community Use of Schools-Outreach Coordinators	6.4		6.4
Community Use of Schools - Priority Schools	7.5		7.5
Early Primary Collaborative Inquiry	1.7		1.7
Energy Procurement and Conservation		1.5	1.5
Equity and Inclusive Education- Parent Engagement		0.9	0.9
Focus on Youth	6.0		6.0
French-Language Education Supports	3.8		3.8
Great to Excellent Innovation and Collaboration		2.5	2.5
Library Staff	9.9		9.9
Middle Years Collaborative in Mathematics	0.5		0.5
MISA Local Capacity	3.2		3.2
MISA Network Centres	1.6		1.6
Official Languages in Education (OLE) - FML	1.3	5.0	6.3

Initiative (\$M)	Allocated	To be Allocated	Grand Total
OLE - French as a Second Language (FSL)	7.9		7.9
Ontario Leadership Strategy		4.0	4.0
Parenting and Family Literacy Centres	10.5	1.1	11.7
Re-Engagement (12 & 12+)		1.2	1.2
Safe Schools - Promoting a Positive School Climate		3.0	3.0
Safe Schools - Student Support Leadership	3.0		3.0
Schools in the Middle - Regional Network Sessions	1.8		1.8
Schools in the Middle/OFIP Support	18.3	4.4	22.7
Small and Northern Boards Mathematics	4.6		4.6
Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM)	6.6		6.6
Student Engagement		1.2	1.2
Student Success-Building Capacity for Effective Instruction in Literacy for Adolescents	1.7		1.7
Student Success - Building Capacity for Effective Mathematics Instruction	1.7		1.7
Student Success Capacity Building for Differentiated Instruction	1.7		1.7
Student Success Collaborative Inquiry for Instructional Impact	1.7		1.7
Student Success School and Cross Panel Teams-Supporting Transition & Innovative Practices, Grade 7-12	2.2		2.2
Student Success School Support Initiative		3.1	3.1
Student Work Study Teachers	12.7		12.7
Teacher Learning and Leadership Program (TLLP)		3.0	3.0
Tutors in the Classroom		1.2	1.2
Grand Total	126.3	34.6	160.9

*Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

SECTION 1. BOARD-BY-BOARD ALLOCATIONS [refer to Appendix A for details]

Aboriginal Education - First Nation, Metis and Inuit (FNMI) Education Policy Framework Implementation (\$4.1M - partly allocated by board in this memo)

The Ministry's investment in Aboriginal Education outside of the GSN includes \$1.56 million for outstanding projects to be delivered in the 2011-2012 School Year and \$2.55 million for projects to be delivered in the 2012-2013 School Year - for continued support for the implementation of the Framework. Funding will be targeted towards:

- continued support to boards for the development of policies for voluntary, confidential Aboriginal student self-identification;
- professional development in Aboriginal education; and
- School-based projects focused on mentorship, transitions, community engagement, regional symposia, and resources for teachers.

Projects will be proposal-driven and boards will receive further information from the Aboriginal Education Office before the end of June 2012 regarding the process for submitting proposals.

Autism Supports and Training (\$3.0M)

This funding supports hands-on practical training modules on Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) instructional methods, with increasing skill development to implement ABA instructional methods in the classroom, targeting school-based teams, including teachers and other educators working with students with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and other students who may benefit from ABA, as appropriate.

Building Innovative Practice Grade 7-10 (\$0.5M)

Selected School Boards will receive funding to support case study sites for innovative practice. Cross-panel capacity building to improve student learning and reduce gaps in student achievement will emphasize:

- Grade 7 to 10 connections, with particular focus on students who are disengaged or struggling with academics;
- the application of the key findings and/or recommendations from the Differentiated Instruction Professional Learning Strategy External Evaluation and the Professional Learning Cycle;
- the use of a collaborative inquiry process to identify student learning and engagement needs, link professional learning to those needs and measure the impact of the changes in instructional practice; and

- the connections among differentiated instruction, assessment as outlined in Growing Success (2011) and approaches to instruction and assessment as outlined in Learning for All (2011).

Collaborative Inquiry for Learning - Mathematics (CIL-M) (\$4.9M)

The elementary Collaborative Inquiry in Mathematics (CIL-M) professional learning initiative supports co-planning and co-teaching in schools to:

- identify teaching/learning that raises the bar and closes the gap on student achievement in mathematics;
- implement lateral capacity building strategies that enable sustainable learning communities comprised of participants representing various roles within the school board; and
- build principal's mathematics instructional leadership through participation in the CIL-M network.

Community Use of Schools - Outreach Coordinators (\$6.4M)

Funding for this program continues in 2012-13 to fund Outreach Coordinators who help to ensure the effectiveness of the Community Use of Schools program, support schools as community hubs at the local level, and explore options for the sharing of underutilized school facilities.

Community Use of Schools - Priority Schools (\$7.5M)

The Community Use of Schools program includes funding for the Priority Schools initiative, which provides free access to school space for non-profit groups, outside of school hours. The selected schools are located in communities that need it most.

Early Primary Collaborative Inquiry (\$1.7M)

The Early Primary Collaborative Inquiry Initiative will foster and identify the connections among kindergarten to Grade 2 educators and programming decisions and explore the common context across these years. Further, work will be undertaken to engage with teams of educators to support inquiry with regard to teaching and learning practice and the impact on student achievement.

Focus on Youth (\$6.0M)

Funding for this program continues in 2012-13 to support the partnership between select school boards and local community agencies to provide summer programming and employment opportunities for students in urban, high-needs neighbourhoods.

French-Language Education Supports (\$3.BM)

French-language boards will receive funding for a variety of initiatives to support the achievement and success of students in French-language schools. Examples of such initiatives include:

- Apprentissage électronique Ontario Strategy (i.e., eLearning);
- French Language Student and School Support;
- transition to postsecondary initiatives;
- Aménagement linguistique policy initiatives; and
- French-language curriculum initiatives (i.e., implementation of mathematics curriculum, support for student assessment and evaluation policy).

Library Investment Project-Staffing (Elementary Schools) (\$9.9M)

Funding continues for a fifth year for library staff (teacher-librarians and/or library technicians) within elementary schools. Board allocations have been revised for 2012 - 2013 based on school counts as reported by boards in the 2011 - 2012 Revised Estimates.

Middle Years Collaborative Inquiry, Grade 7 - 10 Mathematics (\$0.5M)

Selected school boards will continue to receive funding to support a cross-panel inquiry project to generate knowledge about and evidence of effective practices in middle years classrooms.

The funding supports school boards in developing:

- cross-panel instructional capacity to improve student learning and reduce gaps in student achievement in mathematics as reflected in the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA); and
- Capacity in collaborative inquiry skills and connections among middle years educators to improve mathematics learning for all students from Grade 7 to 10.

The inquiry project will be guided by one or more of the Seven Foundational Principles outlined in *"Paying Attention to Mathematics Education"* (Fall, 2011).

Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA) (\$4.BM)

MISA has enabled boards to increase the capacity of teachers, principals, and board administrators to utilize information in support of improved student outcomes. Building on the success of this initiative, the ministry will provide \$3.2 million in direct funding to further assist with MISA Local Capacity Building efforts and \$1.6 million to the seven MISA Professional Network Centres (PNCs) established in 2005.

Official Languages in Education (OLE)

In 2012-13, Canada-Ontario Agreement on Minority Language Education and Second Official Language Instruction funding will be allocated to French- and English-language boards to contribute to the development and enhancement of programs and services based on the following outcomes:

- student participation;
- student performance;
- provision of programs;
- enriched school environment; and
- support for educational staff and research.

FML (\$6.3M - partly allocated by board in this memo)

Funding to French-language school boards will support initiatives such as:

- animation culturelle and community development;
- educational technology; and
- SOS Devoirs.

\$5 million to support projects to be funded in 2012-13 for the French-language child care strategy under OLE will be communicated at a later date.

OLE - French as a Second Language (FSL) (\$7.9M)

Funding to all English-language school boards will support the following three priority areas:

- French as a Second Language professional learning opportunities to teachers;
- French learning opportunities for students; and
- professional learning opportunities for teachers related to using the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) as a professional resource to inform FSL teaching and learning.

Additional funding to some school boards will support a number of provincial projects to enhance FSL learning.

Parenting and Family Literacy Centres (\$11.7M - partly allocated by board in this memo)

Funding for this program continues in 2012-13 to support Parenting and Family Literacy Centres in identified school boards. Centres are located in schools serving high needs neighbourhoods, and provide opportunities for parents/caregivers and children from birth to six years of age to participate together in a range of play-based learning activities that focus on the optimal development of the child and the early acquisition of literacy and numeracy skills. The centres engage parents/caregivers in their children's learning, and foster parents'/caregivers' knowledge and comfort with the school system.

Safe Schools - Student Support Leadership Initiative (\$3.0M)

The Student Support Leadership Initiative (SSLI) is a collaboration between the Ministries of Education, Children and Youth Services, Health and Long-Term Care and Municipal Affairs and Housing. In 2012-13, the initiative continues to support clusters of school boards, community agencies, health and municipal partners to form and enhance local partnerships and coordinate services in order to prevent inappropriate and unsafe behaviours that may lead to suspension or expulsion and to promote the well-being of students. The initiative is part of Ontario's Safe Schools Strategy and is in alignment with the implementation of A Shared Responsibility: Ontario's Policy

Framework for Child and Youth Mental Health, and Ontario's 10-year Mental Health and Addictions Strategy.

Schools in the Middle (SIM) - Regional Network Sessions (\$1.BM)

Each DSB receives funding to support the work of a system improvement team composed of school and central board representatives. The team participates in regional network sessions and supports the implementation of effective teaching, learning and leading practices in elementary schools. Funding of \$25,000 per board is allocated in this memorandum.

SIMI Ontario Focused Intervention Partnership (OFIP) Support (\$18.3M)

Each DSB will generate \$2,200 per elementary school as a base amount of Schools in the Middle (SIM) funding. Additionally, each school that meets the SIM school funding criteria based on 2010-11 student achievement results will generate a further \$4,500 in funding. This funding is to support professional learning in elementary schools focused on improving student achievement results, with a particular focus on literacy and numeracy outcomes.

Small and Northern Boards Mathematics (\$4.6M)

This initiative is designed to enable school boards in the North as well as small school boards facing achievement challenges in math across the province to develop expert staff and additional local capacity in the area of elementary mathematics. Funding is provided for release time in each of the designated boards, as well as opportunities for professional learning in the area of numeracy.

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) (\$6.6M)

Funding for Specialist High Skills Major programs is provided to school boards both through the GSN and through a transfer payment in late 2012. These funds are to be used by school boards to address costs related to the delivery of SHSM programs in the following expenditure categories:

- students certification and training programs;
- tracking student completion of the SHSM components;
- equipment purchases and consumable expenditures;
- promotion and marketing; and
- teacher professional development.

Student Success - Building Capacity for Effective Instruction in Literacy for Adolescents (\$1.7M)

All boards will continue to receive funds to support *Building Capacity for Effective Instruction in Literacy for Adolescents*. The investment supports the goals of the provincial Literacy for Adolescents Professional Learning Strategy by providing funding to:

- support the development of leadership capacity in effecting systemic change by identifying and providing professional learning for instructional leaders in literacy (Grade 7-12);
- build the knowledge of teachers of all subjects about effective instructional practices that support adolescent literacy achievement;
- offer a range of professional learning options (e.g., workshop series, coaching, collaborative inquiry using the professional learning cycle) so that capacity building strategies are differentiated according to school and educator need.

Board planning should be informed by evidence of classroom implementation, student engagement and achievement. Boards will use the funding to build the capacity of formal and informal leaders and teachers for the implementation of effective literacy instruction for adolescents.

\$1.7 million has been allocated for *Building Capacity for Effective Instruction in Literacy for Adolescents* for all English-language school boards.

Student Success - Building Capacity for Effective Mathematics Instruction (\$1.7M)

All boards will continue to receive funds to support *Building Capacity for Effective Mathematics Instruction*. The funding supports the implementation of the *Seven Foundational Principles for Improvement in Mathematics*:

- focus on mathematics;
- coordinate and strengthen mathematics leadership;
- build understanding of effective mathematics instruction;
- support collaborative professional learning in mathematics;
- design a responsive mathematics learning environment ;
- provide assessment and evaluation in mathematics that supports student learning; and
- facilitate access to mathematics learning resources.

Boards will use the funding to build the capacity of leaders and teachers for the implementation of effective mathematics instruction which identifies and addresses the learning and engagement needs of students in Ontario classrooms . Board planning should be informed by evidence of classroom implementation, student engagement and achievement.

\$1.7 million has been allocated for *Building Capacity for Effective Mathematics* for all English-language school boards.

Student Success - Capacity Building for Differentiated Instruction (\$1.7M)

All boards will continue to receive funds for building capacity in differentiated instruction. The goals of the Differentiated Instruction Professional Learning Strategy are to:

- increase the instructional knowledge and skills of educators of Grade 7-12 so that they can meet the diverse needs of all students;
- build awareness of Differentiated Instruction as a framework for planning and implementing effective instruction, assessment and evaluation practices as outlined in the Ontario curriculum; and
- facilitate and support professional learning opportunities through collaborative inquiry (i.e., the professional learning cycle).

Capacity-building will emphasize (a) the connections among differentiated instruction, assessment as outlined in *Growing Success* (2010) and approaches to instruction and

assessment as outlined in *Learning for All* (2011) and (b) informed instruction that is responsive to assessment information including student feedback/voice.

\$1.7 million has been allocated for *Building Capacity for Differentiated Instruction* for all English-language school boards.

Student Success - Collaborative Inquiry for Instructional Impact (\$1.7M)

All boards will receive funds to support *Collaborative Inquiry for Instructional Impact*. The goal of this initiative is to support boards in increasing student engagement and achievement by:

- providing a process for professional learning that is driven and focused by student learning needs;
- linking professional learning needs to student learning needs; and
- focusing on assessing for learning and checking for instructional impact.

\$1.7 million has been allocated for *Collaborative Inquiry for Instructional Impact* for all English-language school boards.

Student Success School and Cross Panel Teams: Supporting Transitions and Innovative Practices, Grade 7-12 (\$2.2M)

All boards will continue to receive funds to support Student Success School and Cross Panel teams. The funds will be used to:

- develop Transition Plans and support the implementation of initiatives to provide specific supports for students as they move from grade to grade and school to school, Grade 7 to 12 and 12+ with special attention to those students who may be in risk situations/at risk of not graduating.
- track and monitor individual student progress from Grade 9 through to the completion of diploma requirements, in particular those students who may be at risk of becoming 'early leavers'. Provide timely supports, education and career plans, and interventions to assist students in completing their academic and non-academic graduation requirements.
- provide ongoing professional development for Student Success School and Cross-Panel Teams using the Professional Learning cycle. In particular, work with school teams to identify the learning and engagement needs of students in risk situations/at risk of not graduating and support teams in the use of research and a variety of resources to develop school and board strategies to address these needs.

\$2.2 million has been allocated to English-language boards, Grade 7-12 only.

Student Work Study Teachers (\$12.7M)

Funding is allocated to support collaborative teacher inquiry into student learning needs and the precise assessment and instructional strategies that close learning gaps and improve achievement.

SECTION 2. PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS

\$34.6 million is outlined by program with board-by-board allocations to be confirmed later in the year.

Energy Procurement, Conservation and Management (\$1.5M)

This funding will assist School Boards in meeting the requirements in terms of energy procurement, energy conservation and energy management.

Equity and Inclusive Education - Parent Engagement (\$0.9M)

Funding is provided to support seven school-board led Equity and Inclusive Education (EIE) Implementation Networks (six regional English-Language Networks and one Provincial French-Language Network). A total of \$875,000 is provided for the networks to support the effective implementation of Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy and Parent Engagement policy and to share promising practices in schools and boards across the province.

Great to Excellent - Innovation and Collaboration (\$2.5M)

Boards will be invited to submit proposals for funding which will be directed to secondary schools where there are demonstrated successes in reducing gaps in student learning and significant gains in student achievement and where programs and practices have emphasized: responding to student learning needs using innovative programs and practices; embedding student-centred approaches in the teaching and learning process and extending learning beyond the classroom.

Boards/schools will:

- document innovative programs and initiatives that have had an impact on student engagement in learning and improved student achievement; and
- develop a model to share practice with others in order to build capacity across schools/boards and the province fostering shared knowledge through networks at the District, Regional and Provincial level, Networking and producing communication products (videos, wikis, booklets, etc) on effective practices.

Boards are asked to consider a range of professional networks at all levels of the system and use different communication vehicles to facilitate shared practices that are innovative and effective (i.e., workshops, webinars, demonstration classrooms, etc.)

Ontario Leadership Strategy (\$4.0M)

The Ontario Leadership Strategy, launched in 2008, is designed to foster leadership of the highest quality in schools and boards across the province. In 2012-13, boards will be provided with one funding allocation with the expectation that they will further the implementation of their Board Leadership Development Strategy. This strategy will enhance the boards' succession planning and talent development initiatives, including mentoring for newly appointed school leaders and principal/vice-principal performance appraisals. The Board Leadership Development Strategy will directly support the goals of the school and board improvements plans for student achievement and the board strategic plan.

Re-Engagement Initiative (12&12+) (\$1.2M)

Funding will again be allocated to English-language school boards in 2012-13 to provide support as they contact, mentor and monitor students who, despite being close to graduation, have left school.

Safe Schools - Promoting a Positive School Climate (\$3.0M)

School boards will receive a one-time allocation in 2012-13 to continue to build capacity for a whole school approach to promoting a positive school climate.

Schools in the Middle (SIM)/ Ontario Focused Intervention Partnership (OFIP) Support (\$4.4M)

Funding will be allocated in the Fall 2012 based on 2011-12 student achievement results to support professional learning in lower and middle performing elementary schools focused on improving student achievement results, with particular focus on literacy and numeracy outcomes.

Student Engagement - SpeakUp (\$1.2M)

The Student Voice initiative is designed to strengthen student engagement for students who are not yet experiencing success. The initiative helps students to learn more about how they learn and what helps them engage in their learning communities.

All school boards are invited to encourage students from Grade 7 to 12, and in particular students not yet experiencing success, to apply for funds to lead SpeakUp projects.

An allocation of \$1.2 million will be provided to fund approved English- and French-language projects in 2012-13.

Student Success School Support Initiative (\$3.1M)

Selected English-language school boards will receive funding to support capacity building in low performing secondary schools. The School Support Initiative is a closing the gap strategy which focuses on improving student achievement, increasing the pass rates and credit accumulation. The funding is to support the implementation and

monitoring of the Initiative, to building the capacity of the principal as the instructional leader and for job-embedded professional learning for teachers.

Teacher Leadership & Learning Program (TLLP) (\$3.0M)

This program involves experienced teachers self-selecting and sharing learning experiences based on ministry, board or school priorities. It enhances opportunities for experienced teachers to expand their knowledge and leadership skills, and share exemplary practices with others. Since the program began approximately 400 projects, involving the work of over 2,400 teachers, have been approved for funding.

Tutors in the Classroom (\$1.2M)

With this funding boards are able to hire and train postsecondary students to tutor elementary students. The tutors support the work of classroom teachers by working with students to reinforce skills and concepts. Funding is accessed by board application and will be finalized later in the year.

Outdoor Education and Engagement

The Ministry is restructuring the Program Enhancement Grant (PEG) in 2012-13 by transferring \$20M to the Education Programs - Other (EPO) transfer payment line. This funding will be used to support outdoor education programs provided by school boards or by third party organizations, such as not-for-profit or community groups. The Ministry will provide more information about this transfer in the near future.

If you require further information about these initiatives, please contact your regular program contacts in the ministry or the office of the Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for the program.

Working in partnership, we have made great progress in improving student performance and increasing the graduation rate. This funding, which is \$24 million higher than what we announced in the 2011-12 84 memo, will continue to support initiatives that improve student achievement. We are confident that, with all of your help, we can provide high quality education for our students and allow them to reach their full potential.

Original Signed By

David Fulford
Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief
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Mary Jean Gallagher
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cc: Superintendents of Business and Finance
George Zegarac, Deputy Minister of Education