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2023: B10

Date: August 25, 2023

Memorandum To: Directors of Education
Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities

From: Andrew Davis
Assistant Deputy Minister
Education Labour and Finance Division

Yael Ginsler
Assistant Deputy Minister
Student Achievement Division

Roxanne Hotte
Assistant Deputy Minister
French-Language Teaching, Learning and Achievement Division

Subject: **Application of Early Reading Screening components of PPM
168 for 2023-24**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide further direction on the application of the early reading screening (“ERS”) components of Policy/Program Memorandum 168 (“PPM 168”) for the 2023-2024 school year. PPM 168 is effective September 1, 2023.

One of the requirements of PPM 168 is that school boards must have all students in Year 2 of Kindergarten through Grade 2 screened for early reading. Although the government does not believe that this requirement necessarily conflicts with any of the central collective agreement entitlements, all parties are committed to continuing with good faith

discussions on this important matter at the central bargaining table. Consequently, this memo confirms that the ERS elements of PPM 168 will not be required. Teachers may choose to administer those components on a voluntary basis until September 1, 2024. Further information will be provided upon conclusion of central negotiations.

The government remains committed to the screening recommendation of the Ontario Human Rights Commission's Right to Read inquiry report. Boards should continue to plan to support those teachers who choose to implement early reading screening.

Screening practices that were in place prior to June 30, 2023, are unaffected by this supplementary direction.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Andrew Davis
Assistant Deputy Minister
Education Labour and Finance Division

Yael Ginsler
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