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2010: SB18

MEMORANDUM TO: Superintendents of Business and Finance
Secretary Treasurer of School Authorities

FROM: Andrew Davis
Director
Financial Analysis and Accountability Branch

DATE: April 13, 2010

SUBJECT: OnSIS Prior Learning and Assessment Recognition for Mature
Students Funding Data Project

I am writing to inform you about a ministry OnSIS initiative to gather Prior Learning and Assessment Recognition (PLAR) funding data which, similar to the recently implemented OnSIS Secondary School Average Class Size Report, will streamline existing data management processes and require school boards to report this data only once. This initiative will also improve the accuracy and accountability of funding data reported to the ministry.

OnSIS collects data for mature pupils through the October, March and June day school submissions, as well as for continuing education programs through the recently implemented Continuing Education and Night School submission. This means that an opportunity now exists to use this data for Grants for Student Needs funding purposes.

The ministry timelines for this project is as follows:

- For the 2009-2010 fiscal year a preliminary PLAR OnSIS verification report will be available for boards to compare PLAR funding data in OnSIS to funding data reported in Education Financial Information System (EFIS). A preliminary review by the ministry suggests there are discrepancies between the EFIS and the OnSIS values which this process will help eliminate.
- For the 2010-2011 fiscal year, OnSIS will implement changes to the PLAR for Mature Students verification report that fully aligns OnSIS data with the Legislative Grants funding regulation. Ministry staff will work with board staff to reconcile any material variances between OnSIS and EFIS funding data. A parallel collection of this data is planned for the 2010-2011 school year.

- It is anticipated that starting in 2011-2012 data from the OnSIS PLAR for Mature Students verification report will be used for funding purposes. It is also expected that PLAR for Mature Students funding data will eventually be integrated into the ministry enrolment confirmation process. Hence for 2009-10 and 2010-11 school boards will continue to populate the EFIS PLAR for Mature Students funding data through existing procedures.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project please contact Dave Christie at dave.christie@ontario.ca or (416)-325-2048.



Andrew Davis

cc: Directors of Education
Don Young, Director