



MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Grant Clarke
Assistant Deputy Minister
Learning and Curriculum Division;
Acting Assistant Deputy Minister
French Language, Aboriginal Learning and Research Division

Mary Jean Gallagher
Assistant Deputy Minister, Chief Student Achievement Officer
Student Achievement Division

DATE: September 7, 2012

SUBJECT: Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement,
Kindergarten to Grade 12

As we look forward to a new year of implementing improvement planning, we thank you for your ongoing work to support the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) process and your commitment to improve learning and well-being for all of our students. Our learning together over this past year has improved the BIPSA process and contributed significantly to our individual and collective understanding as we move forward in 2012-13.

This memo is a follow up to the July 12, 2012 communication in which we asked you to reserve the dates and indicated we would provide more information about the BIPSA process in the 2012-2013 year. In response to your input, feedback, and current provincial results, together we will focus on how we are building coherence to support deeper implementation and monitoring of achievement and, in particular, instructional leadership and student achievement in mathematics K-12.

Across the province, board teams have indicated they would like to continue engaging with other board teams to share challenges and effective strategies. To support this, a portion of the morning of the Student Achievement Division Regional Sessions in September will be dedicated to BIPSA cross-board dialogue, supported by your regional ministry BIPSA teams. It would be helpful for your team, including the School Effectiveness Leader, the Student Success Leader, the superintendent with responsibility for Special Education, and a superintendent with responsibility for schools, to accompany you to this meeting.

In preparation for sharing in cross-board groups, we ask that you and your team members be prepared to discuss implementation accomplishments from 2011-12 and the evidence you used to determine these. Also be prepared to discuss your identified urgent student learning need for 2012-13 and your proposed strategies. Please bring a copy of your BIPSA for reference.

Please note the dates and locations for these Regional Meetings. The time for all sessions is from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Region	Date	Location	Board Contact
Sudbury / North Bay	Sep 11 th	Travelodge 1401 Paris St, Sudbury ON Tel 705-522-1100	Victoria la Chapelle Victoria.lachapelle@scdsb.edu.on.ca
Thunder Bay	Sep 12 th	Valhalla Inn in the Viking Room, 1 Valhalla Inn Rd, Thunder Bay ON Tel 807-577-1121	Robin Tabor-John Robin_taborjohn@lakeheadschoools.ca
Ottawa	Sep 18 th	Kanata Holiday Inn 101 Kanata Avenue Kanata ON K2T 1E6 Tel 1-800-465-4329 or 613-271-3057	Eleanor Newman Eleanor.newman@eosdn.on.ca
Barrie	Sep 20 th	Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel and Suites 600 Highway 7 East, Richmond Hill ON L4B 1B2 Tel 905-881-2121	Corinne Brown Brown_corinne@durham.edu.on.ca
London	Sep 25 th	Four Points Sheraton Wellington Rd S, London 1150 Wellington Road S London ON N6E 1M3 Tel 519-681-0600	Colleen Roulston Colleen_roulston@hpcdsb.edu.on.ca
Toronto	Sep 27 th	Mississauga Grand Banquet & Convention Centre 35 Brunel Rd. Mississauga L4Z 3E8 Tel 905-501-0043	Susan Mosey Susan.mosey@peelsb.com

We are pleased to let you know that in 2012-13, the regional ministry teams will continue to meet with school board teams to engage in BIPSA conversations. In March 2010 school boards were asked to ensure that students with special education needs were included in ongoing BIPSA planning. Thank you for your commitment to this goal. In response to your feedback, again in 2012-13 every regional ministry team will include a special education representative.

There will be two meetings of ministry and school board BIPSA teams during the school year. We anticipate that each meeting will be approximately two hours in length to allow opportunity for conversation and mutual feedback.

Visit one occurs between November and January and will focus on implementation. The conversation will reflect upon the degree to which the strategies, resources and professional learning identified within the BIPSA are beginning to be implemented. Boards will share initial impacts that these areas of BIPSA are having on attaining the SMART Goals/If Then Statements that were selected as a result of the analysis of the needs assessment and the outcomes of 2011-12 BIPSA implementation.

Visit two occurs in March/April and will focus on monitoring. Again using the BIPSA improvement planning assessment tool, 2012 version, the starting point for this conversation will be evidence and data of student achievement and DSB analysis of how BIPSA strategies, resources and professional learning are impacting student achievement.

There will be discussion about areas of focus that the board or Ministry team has identified, as well as mathematics achievement.

We will plan a Regional or Provincial sharing session in May 2013.

To support the BIPSA process, in the coming weeks, you will receive a board-specific Expected Results Template that is pre-populated with three years of student achievement trend data. (A sample template is attached to this memo.) We invite you to use this tool where beneficial to your BIPSA process. We are not requesting submission of this template at this time.

For 2012-13, we are again requesting that you submit your BIPSA by October 31st to the Ministry at BIPforSA@ontario.ca.

We trust that the discussions at the September Regional Meetings will provide a rich start to the 2012-13 BIPSA cycle. Once again, we express our deep appreciation of your commitment to the BIPSA process and thank you for your dedication to student achievement and well-being.

Sincerely,

Grant Clarke

Mary Jean Gallagher

CC: Student Success Leaders
School Effectiveness Leads
Rob Andrews, Director, Student Success/Learning to 18 Strategic
Implementation, Innovation and Support Branch
Barry Finlay, Director, Special Education Policy and Programs Branch
Mike Jancik, Director, The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat
Bruce W. Shaw, Director, The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat
Denys Giguère, Director, French Language Education Policy and
Programs Branch
Kathy Verduyn, Director, Field Services Branch
Bruce Drewett, Director, Leadership Development Branch
Regional Managers
Regional EOs
External and Internal Student Success EOs
LNS Team Leads