

**Ministry of Education**

Leadership and Learning  
Environment Division

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**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Division du leadership et du milieu  
d'apprentissage

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Queen's Park  
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**MEMORANDUM TO:** Directors of Education

**FROM:** Denise Dwyer  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Leadership and Learning Environment Division

**DATE:** March 1, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Evaluation of Suspension/Expulsion Programs and Overview  
of the Use of Funding for Professional and Paraprofessional  
Non-Academic Supports

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I am writing to advise you that the Ministry of Education has commissioned an evaluation of the programs for suspended/expelled students. A research team headed by Dr. Katina Pollock, at the University of Western Ontario, was selected to conduct the evaluation through a procurement process.

The evaluation is intended to assess the impact of suspension/expulsion programs on outcomes for students who have been long-term suspended/expelled; and identify promising practices and alternatives to suspension/expulsion.

It would be appreciated if you could forward the e-mail address of your board lead responsible for delivering these programs in your board. The EDU staff contact for the evaluation is Saddeiq Holder at [saddeiq.holder@ontario.ca](mailto:saddeiq.holder@ontario.ca).

We will follow up to identify the board staff involved in program delivery and are best positioned to respond to an on-line survey. Your board can expect to receive an on-line survey in late Spring as the first step in compiling a provincial inventory of suspension/expulsion programs.

I appreciate your assistance with this important undertaking to ensure that long-term suspended/expelled students, and students at risk of being suspended/expelled, receive the academic and non-academic support needed to address inappropriate behaviour, reinforce positive behavior and make better choices.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Denise Dwyer

c: Safe and Accepting Schools Board Leads  
Regional Education Officers