



The Institute for
Education Leadership

L'Institut de leadership
en éducation

www.education-leadership-ontario.ca

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

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Education

Ministry of Education

Ontario Catholic Supervisory
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Ontario Principals' Council

Ontario Public Supervisory
Officials Association

October 22nd, 2014

Dear Colleagues in Education,

The Institute for Education Leadership (IEL) is pleased to provide you with an update of fall activities and key developments.

The [Interactive School and System Leader Self-Assessment Tools](#) are now available on the IEL website at <http://www.education-leadership-ontario.ca>. Practicing school and system leaders and those who are aspiring to leadership roles have developed these tools. The self-assessment tools are based on the leadership practices found in the Ontario Leadership Framework (OLF) and include the Personal Leadership Resources (PLR). The purpose of the self-assessment tools is to provide leaders with a resource they can use to assess and reflect on the extent to which they demonstrate the leadership practices and to identify next steps. A unique feature of the tools is that leaders can choose to share their findings with their professional association. Professional associations will then consider the finding results when developing their professional learning opportunities.

The **Strong Districts and Their Leadership Project** is well underway and was highlighted at the August 2014 CODE meeting. The project now includes two distinct but complementary strands of work. One strand includes the design and field-testing of professional development modules. This strand includes a review of the research, agendas and tasks. Field-testing of the modules is currently scheduled to take place between December 1st, 2014 and January 31st, 2015. The second strand includes the development of case studies based on the nine characteristics of strong districts. We are happy to announce that 22 school district teams are participating in the project at this time. In addition to the case studies, a cross section of school district teams will be interviewed on their selected areas of focus. The project has expanded to include interviews with directors of education and their senior leadership teams. For more information or for support conversations please contact: Catherine McCullough at catherine.mccullough@cmcleadership.ca.

The [Leading Safe and Accepting Schools](#) website has been redesigned and updated to more effectively share new resources to support districts in the implementation of safe and accepting schools programs and policies in all four sectors. The planning of four webcasts is in the development stage. A number of districts have shared effective practices in the area of restorative practices and youth program initiatives. The safe and accepting schools programs consider student voice to be a very important facet to the success of implementation.

A Leading Safe and Accepting Schools project advisory group was established to provide advice and expertise related to the second phase of the project. Their input was used to develop a survey that was distributed to the 72 districts. The purpose of the survey was to learn about best practices and challenges districts face in implementing safe and accepting schools policy. Surveys have been submitted and the process of analysis is underway.

Great work is being done to support the implementation of the safe schools policy and the program lead and coordinator are looking forward to moving forward with phase III of this project. For more information, please contact Kim Christianson at kim.christianson.ile@gmail.com.

The IEL is in the process of preparing resources to support school and system leaders with the development of their Personal Leadership Resources (PLR). These include a list of speakers whose presentation and speaking topics align with the PLRs, a series of case studies with reflective questions to support a focus on the PLRs and a series of interview questions with possible responses which can be adapted to reflect your own particular recruitment and selection processes. These resources will be posted on the IEL website in the near future. For more information, please contact Jeanine Beauchemin, at jeanine.beauchemin@sympatico.ca or Nadine Trépanier-Bisson, at nadine@adfo.org.

The IEL offered a one-day orientation session for both English and French language newly appointed academic and business supervisory officers. Participants had the opportunity to discuss their priorities, perspectives, successes and challenges in small group discussions with Ministry of Education representatives. The keynote speaker, Professor Ken Leithwood, provided valuable information on *Strong Districts and Their Leadership* and How to Make Effective Use of the Implementation Guide. This was also a great opportunity for networking with other colleagues in the province.

Again this year, we would like to encourage you to send us your resources to post on APPLIKI. Denise Duhaime, denise.a.duhaime@gmail.com, the IEL coordinator, will be pleased to assist you in posting these resources. We value the opportunity APPLIKI provides to share resources with school and system leaders in the province, nationally and internationally.

Please distribute this communiqué to educational leaders in your organization. We are looking forward to continuing our communication with you throughout the year.



Norah Marsh
Chair
Institute for Education Leadership

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- Ontario Principals' Council
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