



**MEMORANDUM TO:** Directors of Education

Supervisory Officers and Secretary-Treasurers of School  
Authorities

Executive Director of Provincial and Demonstration Schools

**FROM:**

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**DATE:** February 28, 2018

**SUBJECT:** **Mathematics Professional Learning, Initiatives and  
Resources**

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As we move into the second half of Year 2 of the Renewed Mathematics Strategy (RMS), we would like to thank you for your ongoing work supporting the achievement, well-being and equity of our students in mathematics. By way of this memo, we are pleased to announce the launch of professional learning opportunities, initiatives and resources dedicated to mathematics. These include:

- The RMS Spring Symposium 2018;
- The On-Demand RMS Professional Learning Resources;
- The Year 2 funding application for TechnoMath; and
- The Financial Literacy Program Evaluation.

Through the number of supports outlined in this memo, we look forward to building stronger partnerships with you as we continue along this journey.

### **RMS Spring Symposium**

In the spirit of collaboration, as well as to further support our commitment to improving student achievement, well-being and equity in mathematics, we are excited to announce the RMS Spring Symposium for May 2018.

The Spring Symposium will be comprised of keynote speakers and breakout sessions, which will facilitate face-to-face collaborative professional learning with a whole-department or whole-school approach. The suggested audience of the RMS Symposium includes:

- Superintendents and System Leads (e.g., School Effectiveness Lead, Student Success Lead, Special Education Lead, Early Years Lead, Indigenous Education Lead, Equity Lead)
- Principals (K-12) and educators from schools receiving Intensive Support through the RMS
- School and System Math Leads/Facilitators/Coaches/Coordinators
- Other educators at the Director's discretion

The Symposium will be held at the **Toronto Congress Centre at 650 Dixon Rd.**, Mississauga, ON. Participants will have the option of choosing from one of two identical sessions. The dates and times for each session are listed below.

#### **Session A**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Times</b>
May 17, 2018 (full-day)	8am – 4pm
May 18, 2018 (half-day)	8am – 12pm

**– OR –**

#### **Session B**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Times</b>
May 23, 2018 (full-day)	8am – 4pm
May 24, 2018 (half-day)	8am – 12pm

**Registration for the Symposium will open on March 5, 2018 and will close on April 6, 2018.** To register for the Symposium, please forward the link to this [webpage](#), containing registration and agenda details to the educators who you have selected to participate. To access the registration link, participants must use the password “symposium2018” (lower case).

Please note that funding to cover all associated travel costs (including educator release time) is included in the 2017-18 RMS Transfer Payment Agreement.

## **On-Demand Resources**

We are pleased to announce the upcoming launch of On-Demand virtual sessions, which will be made available to all educators on the RMS website within the Learning Exchange platform. These On-Demand virtual sessions provide educators with an opportunity to access all of the ministry's past RMS virtual learning sessions. These resources also include supplementary guides to support educators in applying learning from the virtual sessions.

Please see this [webpage](#) for a full list of the On-Demand virtual sessions.

The ministry is also launching **new stand-alone live virtual sessions** that are responsive to educator needs. For more information on these live virtual sessions, please visit this [webpage](#). The Calendar of Education Events and the RMS website will be updated accordingly.

## **TechnoMath**

The ministry is pleased to work with associations including the Ontario Council for Technology Education (OCTE), L'Association Francophone pour l'Enseignement des Mathématiques en Ontario (AFEMO), the Ontario Mathematics Coordinators Association (OMCA) and the Ontario Association for Mathematics Education (OAME) in supporting the RMS through our technology education programs. The ministry would like to invite principals, on behalf of teams of mathematics and technological education teachers, to submit a proposal for funding for Year 2 of TechnoMath. **The application deadline is March 21, 2018.**

TechnoMath creates cross-curricular connections between Grade 9 or 10 technological education and mathematics by co-delivering them in the following ways:

- a) The course type sections are taught using an integrated approach over two periods or two blocks – students remain in the same cohort for both the technological education and the math periods/blocks; or,
- b) The course type sections are co-taught during the same double period.

Proposals must be completed by school principals and endorsed by the head of guidance. The ministry will provide up to \$12,500 to support school-based teams of educators to implement TechnoMath. Preference will be given to applications that demonstrate utilizing other school board funding (such as funding for Experiential Learning or the RMS). Pending application approval, registrants will be invited to participate in a two-day professional learning session on July 11-12, 2018. **For questions, please contact [TechnoMathHSW-MHQ@ontario.ca](mailto:TechnoMathHSW-MHQ@ontario.ca).** Further information and instructions can be found in **Appendix A**.

## **Financial Literacy Program Evaluation**

Since the introduction of the Ministry of Education's financial literacy education strategy in the fall of 2011, elementary and secondary students have been learning about how to make more informed financial decisions. The goal of the strategy is to make financial literacy a part of every child's learning by enhancing and embedding financial topics and

concepts, including those related to citizenship, consumer awareness, personal finance and economic understanding, across the provincial curriculum in Grades 4-12.

To better understand the implementation of this work and inform the future direction of financial literacy education in Ontario, the Ministry of Education has contracted with *The Social Research and Demonstration Corporation* (SRDC) to conduct an independent evaluation. SRDC is a private, not-for-profit organization with specialization in education research and evaluation.

In the coming weeks you will be contacted by SRDC directly and invited to provide input into the Ministry's approach to financial literacy education, including the associated successes and challenges. This research will inform the development of self-assessment tools for educators and school leaders. Your input is critical in supporting the successful outcome of this work.

### **Additional Resources**

Finally, please visit this [webpage](#) for existing ministry resources that focus on mathematics learning, teaching, and leading, as well as parent engagement in mathematics.

We look forward to building stronger partnerships with you as we continue to work towards improving mathematics achievement, well-being and equity for all students in Ontario. Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Bruce W. Shaw

*Original signed by*

Yael Ginsler

*Original signed by*

Marg Connor

*Original signed by*

Shirley Kendrick

cc. Field Services Branch Managers and Director