

Ministry of Education
Field Services Branch
12th Floor, 900 Bay Street
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation
Direction des services régionaux
12e étage, 900, rue Bay
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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers and Secretary-Treasurers of School
Authorities
Director of the Provincial Schools Branch
Supervisory Officer of Centre Jules-Léger

FROM: Regional Manager

DATE: November 16, 2007

SUBJECT: **2007 - 08 Ontario School Year Calendar Update**

I am writing to provide you with additional information regarding the school year calendars submitted for the 2007-08 school year. On October 11, 2007, the Government of Ontario announced the creation of a province-wide statutory holiday known as Family Day. This day will occur on the third Monday in February of each year, beginning February 18, 2008, for the purpose of emphasizing and celebrating the importance of families taking time to be together.

This new statutory holiday will have an impact on the 2007-08 school year calendars that district school boards, school authorities and provincial schools are required to submit to the ministry in accordance with *Regulation 304, School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days*. *Regulation 304* states that the school year must contain a minimum of 194 school days, including at least two and as many as six professional activity days and up to ten examination days.

The government is proposing to amend *Regulation 304* to permit a one-time reduction in 2007-08 in the number of instructional days in the school year. This amendment would, if approved as currently planned, allow for 193 school days for the 2007-08 school year.

Only those boards that had planned a professional activity day on February 18, 2008 would be required to re-schedule the professional activity day, and obtain Ministerial approval of this calendar modification. These boards would be required to communicate the change in the school calendar for 2007-08 to affected parents as soon as possible after Ministerial approval.

If you have any questions, please contact my office.

Regional Manager

cc. Kit Rankin, Director, Field Services Branch