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Policy/Program Memorandum No. 126

Issued under the authority of the Deputy Minister of Education

Date of Issue:	July 27, 2000	Effective: Until revoked or modified
Subject:	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TEACHER-ADVISER PROGRAM AND USE OF THE TERM "CO-INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES"	
Application:	Directors of Education Secretary of School Authorities Superintendents of Provincial Schools Principals of Elementary Schools Principals of Secondary Schools Principals of Provincial Schools	
Reference:	This memorandum revokes Policy/Program Memorandum No. 125, March 24, 2000.	

Implementation of the Teacher-Adviser Program

As stated in *Ontario Secondary Schools, Grades 9 to 12: Program and Diploma Requirements, 1999* (OSS), the purpose of the teacher-adviser program is to assist students in planning a relevant and rigorous program to meet their needs and goals and to reflect their interests. Teacher-advisers are responsible for helping students make informed choices at key transition points in their schooling. Teachers assigned teacher-adviser duties are responsible for helping students complete and review their annual education plan, monitoring students' academic progress, and communicating with parents about students' progress.

To assist boards in implementing the **teacher-adviser program**, the government has provided \$64 million for the hiring of additional teachers in 2000–2001. In addition, Ontario Regulation 398/00, entitled "Secondary School Teaching Assignments", makes the program eligible for inclusion in the calculation of the required minimum teaching-assignment average, stated in subsection 170.2.1(2) of the *Education Act*, of 6.67 eligible courses in a day school program during the school year.

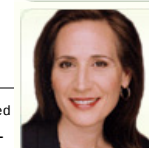
As a result of these changes, the original schedule for implementing the teacher-adviser program that was provided in OSS has been modified. Beginning in September 2000, principals are required to assign students in Grades 7 through 12 to a teacher-adviser under the teacher-adviser program.

Use of the Term "Co-instructional Activities"

The *Education Accountability Act, 2000* amended the *Education Act* by adding the following definition:

"co-instructional activities" means activities other than providing instruction that,

- support the operation of schools,
- enrich pupils' school-related experience, whether within or beyond the instructional program, or
- advance pupils' education and education-related goals, and includes but is not limited to activities having to do with school-related sports, arts and cultural activities, parent-teacher and pupil-teacher interviews, letters of support for pupils, staff meetings and school functions but does not include activities specified in a regulation made under subsection (1.2)

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Effective immediately, the term "extracurricular activities" in OSS should be read as "co-instructional activities", as defined above.

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