

JUN 29 2006

Mr. Charles Cirtwill
Vice-President & Director of Operations
Atlantic Institute for Market Studies
2000 Barrington Street, Suite 1006
Cogswell Tower
Halifax, NS B3J 3K1

Dear Mr. Cirtwill:

In respect to the Department of Education's efforts to facilitate the AIMS data request for the 2005-06 year, I want to advise you of the following plans which the department has put in place.

Mr. Ted Vaughan, Director of the Statistics and Data Management Division of this department, will co-ordinate the gathering of the data elements listed below. It is expected that this data will be received by the department by late September 2006, and should be available to AIMS by late October to early November.

The information requested from regional school boards is as follows:

- ▶ Average exam grades (in respect to Provincial exam subjects only) by school
- ▶ Average class mark (as it pairs to the above exam subjects) by school
- ▶ Overall average of the above noted subjects by school
- ▶ Percentage of students with 80% or greater as an overall mark by school
- ▶ Grade 9 averages for math and language arts by school
- ▶ Attendance by school
- ▶ Discipline Statistics - Number of external suspensions by school
- ▶ Postal Codes of students within a school where the frequency of the code is greater than 5

In order to provide this information in a more timely manner in the future, it is our intention to have a Student Information System that will assist us in our data acquisition activities. In the meantime, I trust that our current plan meets your data needs. I would ask that you contact Mr. Vaughan if you have any questions regarding this matter. He can be reached at 424-6988, at vaughatj@gov.ns.ca or at the address above.

Yours truly,



Dennis Cochrane
Deputy Minister

c: Ted Vaughan, Director, Statistics & Data Management

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