

## **Teachers Ask for School Information Finder to be dropped from Ministry website**

**TORONTO, June 5, 2009** — Joe Lamoureux, President of the Ontario Teachers' Federation today added the teachers of Ontario to the growing list of education stakeholders expressing opposition to the School Information Finder (SIF) on the Ministry of Education website.

Lamoureux stated, "It is deeply distressing to us that student demographics are being publicly presented in a way that promotes misuse of the information. The unintended consequence of the SIF is, in effect, a naming and shaming of schools that flies in the face of the Ministry's own newly released policy on Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy."

"OTF was a signatory to the letter sent earlier this week to the Minister and the Premier. We are asking that the SIF section of the Ministry website be taken down pending consultations with education stakeholders," he added. "We believe that the government can meet its accountability responsibilities without stigmatizing schools and students based on class, language or income," he added.

"We hope the government will respond positively to our request", he concluded.

The Ontario Teachers' Federation represents 144,000 full-time, part-time and occasional teachers in the publicly funded public, Catholic and francophone schools in Ontario.

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