

## Dr. Avis Glaze – January 2006

*Dr. Avis Glaze, Chief Student Achievement Officer, Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat*

In this address, Dr. Avis Glaze expresses her appreciation for the deep commitment on the part of the principals. She celebrates the gains that have been achieved and urges the group to continue with the work, because the work is not done. She highlights several areas that still need to improve. She suggests that successful leaders are aware of the future and encourages the audience heighten their own, as well as other's awareness of the changing nature of the world. She stresses the importance of public relations and influencing public attitude about education. She lists many skills that being a principal involves, and ends with a story that highlights the importance of teaching.

**Contact:**

For more information on Dr. Avis Glaze and the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, visit [www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/moreinfo.html](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/moreinfo.html)

**Segments:**

- 1...Introduction
- 2...Improving Professional Learning Communities
- 3...Areas of Improvement
- 4...The Costs of Inadequate Education
- 5...Influencing Public Attitudes about Education
- 6...The Role of the Principal
- 7...Conclusion

### 1...Introduction

(Length: 3.5 minutes)

**Synopsis:**

Glaze expresses gratitude to the principal councils, superintendents and principals for the work they have been doing. She recognizes their collaboration, enthusiasm and commitment.

### 2...Improving Professional Learning Communities

(Length: 3 minutes)

**Synopsis:**

Glaze maintains the urgency around improving education. She suggests that a lot has been done, but there is still more work to be done. She encourages schools to believe that they can meet the goal of 75% and also begin to surpass it.

**Look for the Following:**

- Congeniality vs. collegiality

**After viewing Segment 2:**

- What is the distinction between congeniality and collegiality?
- What can you do to promote collegiality in your schools?

### 3...Areas of Improvement

(Length: 4 minutes)

#### **Synopsis:**

Glaze mentions several areas where improvement is being seen, and uses data about illiteracy to show the importance of education.

#### **Look for the Following:**

- Illiteracy rates in Canada

#### **After viewing Segment 3:**

- Does anything that Glaze says shock you? Why or why not?

### 4...The Costs of Inadequate Education

(Length: 12 minutes)

#### **Synopsis:**

Glaze highlights several results of an inadequate education. She names specific shifts in focus at the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat. She discusses shifts in Special Education. She shares ten “world flatners” listed in Thomas Friedman’s *The World is Flat*. She shares three levels of convergence as cited by Thomas Friedman.

#### **Look for the Following:**

- 10 world flatners
- Three levels of convergence
- Downsides to globalization

#### **After viewing Segment 4:**

- What are the implications for education?
- What are the implications for education leaders?
- How can you in your roles help your colleagues help teachers to be aware of the world and be prepared in their knowledge and attitudes?
- Do you know what your sub populations are doing?
- What are you doing to help them?

#### **Digging deeper:**

Friedman, T. (2005) *The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

### 5...Influencing Public Attitudes About Education

(Length: 4 minutes)

#### **Synopsis:**

Glaze highlights the importance of public relations in education. She names three components of a good public relations campaign and she encourages leaders to develop public relation skills in others.

#### **Look for the Following:**

- Three components of a public relations campaign

**After viewing Segment 5:**

- How are you encouraging others to be good at public relations?
- What are the components of a public relations campaign?
- Why should we be aware of public relations?

**6...The Role of the Principal**

(Length: 2 minutes)

**Synopsis:**

Glaze shares ten metaphors for principalship reminding the audience of the importance and challenge of the job. She encourages people in education to care for themselves by finding people to support and nourish them.

**Look for the Following:**

- 10 metaphors of principalship

**After viewing Segment 6:**

- Glaze shares ten metaphors she has for principalship. Would you add any others?
- Highlight three of her metaphors that you believe are challenging for you?
- What can you do to increase your ability to take on that role?

**Digging Deeper:**

Fullan, M. (1997) *What's Worth Fighting For in the Principalship?* New York: Teacher's College Press.

**7...Conclusion**

(Length: 2.5 minutes)

**Synopsis:**

Glaze shares an anecdote that highlights the importance of teaching.

**After viewing Segment 7:**

- Have you been in a similar situation to the teacher in her story?
- What can we do to shift the thinking about teaching?