

Ministry of Education

Deputy Minister

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation

Sous-ministre

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



Memorandum To: Directors of Education
Secretary-Treasurers and Supervisory Officers of School Authorities
Principals of Elementary and Secondary Schools
Principals of First Nation Elementary and Secondary Schools
Principals of Inspected Private Schools

From: George Zegarac
Deputy Minister

Date: February 23, 2015

Subject: **Release of the revised curriculum policy documents for *Health and Physical Education, Grades 1 to 8, 2015; and Health and Physical Education, Grades 9 to 12, 2015***

The revised curriculum policy documents for *Health and Physical Education, Grades 1 to 8, 2015; and Health and Physical Education, Grades 9 to 12, 2015*, have been posted on the Ministry of Education website www.edu.gov.on.ca for school boards, schools and other education stakeholders. Print documents will be distributed to schools and school boards in the near future. Mandatory implementation of the curriculum begins in September 2015.

The revision of these curriculum policy documents is the result of work done through the curriculum review process, which began in 2007. The review process was guided by research on current instructional approaches specific to this discipline, expert advice from academics, benchmarking and comparisons of the curriculum with that of other national and international jurisdictions. The review also involved extensive consultations with educators, students, parents and a wide range of stakeholders. These processes provided valuable insights to support strengthening and updating the curriculum to meet current and future student needs.

The revised Health and Physical Education curriculum supports Ontario's goals of achieving excellence, ensuring equity, promoting well-being and enhancing public confidence in the education system, and will help all students to be safe and healthy.

In addition to supporting *Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario*, the curriculum aligns with other existing and newly released government policies and documents including: Healthy Schools policies and programs; Ontario's Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy; Comprehensive Action Plan on Accepting Schools; the Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy; Character Education; Environmental Education; Financial Literacy Education; Growing Success; Learning for All; First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework and others.

Implementation training sessions will be provided throughout April and May 2015 and will include web-based and face-to-face components. More information on these sessions will be communicated shortly. In the meantime, you may wish to see the Calendar of Education Events at: <http://skills.edu.gov.on.ca/PLCalendar/MonthCalendar/search.aspx>.

The ministry believes strongly that parents and educators play critical and complementary roles in supporting student safety and well-being. Recognizing this, the ministry has begun developing a series of resources for parents, which provide information on the Health and Physical Education curriculum and ideas for supporting learning at home. Parent resources available to date include:

- A Parent's Guide to the Health and Physical Education Curriculum, Grades 1-12;
- A Parent's Guide: Human Development and Sexual Health in the Health and Physical Education Curriculum, Grades 1-6;
- A Parent's Guide: Human Development and Sexual Health in the Health and Physical Education Curriculum, Grades 7-12;
- Quick Facts for Parents: Learning about Healthy Relationships and Consent; and
- Quick Facts for Parents: Learning about Online Safety, including Risks of Sexting.

These resources are available on the ministry's webpage at: www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/health.html.

Planning for the development of educator resources and supports is also underway. Resources will be available at www.eduGAINS.ca and through education partners.

If you have any questions about these curriculum policy documents, please contact the appropriate Regional Office for information.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Ministry's curriculum review process and for your leadership in the implementation of the revised Health and Physical Education curriculum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Zegarac". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

George Zegarac
Deputy Minister

- c: Rob Andrews, Director
Student Success Implementation Branch
- Alayne Bigwin, Director
Aboriginal Education Office
- Barry Finlay, Director
Special Education Policy and Programs Branch
- Richard Franz, Director
Research, Evaluation & Capacity Branch
- Pauline McNaughton, Director (A)
Student Success Policy Branch
- Nancy Sanders, Director
Provincial Schools Branch
- Bruce Shaw, Director
Leadership & Implementation Branch
- Kathy Verduyn, Director
Field Services Branch
- Regional Managers
Council of Ontario Directors of Education