April 4, 2016

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to let you know about Ontario’s renewed math strategy that will help our students, teachers, schools and boards in achieving better math results (see attached News Release). Ontario’s vision for education, Achieving Excellence, commits us to the success and well-being of every student and child. This renewed math strategy leverages the collective knowledge and skills from our shared successes of the past, to focus on improving student achievement in mathematics.

The strategy will have a number of features that will respond to the various strengths and needs of our learners and boards. It also promotes a greater collaboration between all parties, including educators, students, leaders and parents. This renewed strategy benefits from the latest research and lessons learned in the field.

Ontario has an enviable track record in improving student learning in reading and writing. We are recognized worldwide for our skill in improving outcomes for students, and we are applying what we learned through our literacy experience to improve math achievement for our students.

Ontario has a lot to be proud of in terms of student achievement, thanks in large part to our great educators and staff. Our students are continuing to perform above the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) average in reading, science and mathematics. But the new global economy demands more for all students, so we must strive for even better results.

Like most other jurisdictions across Canada and around the world, we know there is still more to do when it comes to student achievement. Our renewed mathematics strategy underscores our government’s goal to prepare our students for a productive and successful future.

Over the coming weeks and months, we will engage in conversations with our many partners in education as we work together on the implementation of the strategy. We recognize that there are no simple road maps to success; the work to improve student achievement in math is complex, important and continues to evolve.

The deputy minister will contact the directors of education shortly to provide more details of the strategy.
Thank you for your ongoing commitment to helping our students succeed.

Sincerely,

Liz Sandals
Minister

Enclosure