Memorandum to: Directors of Education
District School Boards

From: Sue Durst
Director
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch

Date: August 31, 2011

Subject: Additional Information Regarding the Provincial e-Learning Strategy

As a follow-up to my memo of June 30, 2011 regarding supports for the provincial e-learning strategy, I am pleased to provide you with some additional information.

1. Homework Help

Following the Minister’s announcement on August 30, 2011 regarding the expansion of Homework Help, the embargo on information is lifted. I encourage you to communicate the availability of this valuable support to students, parents, and teachers in your board.

2. Role of the e-Learning Contact (eLC)

The eLC position will coordinate and lead boards in their implementation of the provincial e-learning strategy; the implementation of blended learning; implementation of Homework Help; and the distribution of digital resources and tools provided by the Ministry. More detail on the role is provided in the attached Roles and Responsibilities of the e-Learning Contact (eLC) 2011-12. As noted in my communication on June 30, funding for the eLC position will be consistent with the amount provided to Homework Help pilot boards this past year, i.e. up to $100,000 with an additional allowance for travel of up to $10,000.

An initial meeting for eLCs will be held on September 9, 2011 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. EDT via Adobe Connect at http://elo.adobeconnect.com/vcr1/. Please forward the name and contact information for your eLC as soon as possible to Shawn Allenby at shawn.allenby@ontario.ca.

3. Supports for Blended Learning

The rollout of blended learning in the provincial learning management system (LMS) in all district school boards will begin in September and continue throughout the 2011-
12 school year. To assist boards with this roll-out, e-Learning Ontario is pleased to offer the following supports:

- **A policy document** outlining parameters associated with using the provincial LMS for blended learning. This policy document is currently being revised and will be made available to boards later in the fall.
- **A webinar series** – Please see the attached listings for the first semester. Note that all webinars are recorded for those unable to attend in real time.
- **Regional blended learning symposia** – Regional e-Learning Contacts (ReLCs) will be organizing these events and will provide your board with further information about registration opportunities.
- **Face-to-face professional development sessions for teachers and administrators** – please contact Rose Burton-Spohn at rose.burton-spohn@ontario.ca to arrange for training.
- **At-the-elbow support for teachers** – please contact your eLC to arrange these opportunities.

4. **New and Revised e-Learning Credit Courses**

Sixteen new or revised e-learning credit courses are now available for district school boards for delivery to students in September 2011. This includes the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OLC4O). The attached chart provides a breakdown of the courses by subject area and grade as well as some additional information regarding the delivery of the OLC4O course. A complete list of courses may also be found on the e-Learning Ontario website at www.ontario.ca/elearning.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Peter Sovran, Manager, e-Learning Ontario at 416.325.0394 or peter.sovran@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure student success. I wish you all the best for the 2011-12 school year.

Sue Durst

Encl.

c. Kathryn Verdun
   Peter Sovran