December 17, 2008

Dear Principal,

I am writing to tell you about a new resource that can help support the learning happening at your school. We are introducing video podcasts to help parents develop learning opportunities at home. They are available in English and French at ontario.ca/abc123.

The video podcasts show parents how they can support their children’s education by incorporating reading, writing and math into everyday family life. The videos feature real families engaging in familiar activities and are aimed at parents of students in Kindergarten through Grade 6.

Every day at school you and your staff help Ontario students learn important skills. When that learning continues at home, students develop an even stronger foundation.

I hope you will help us promote this valuable new resource to Ontario parents through your staff and school councils. I have attached a promotional image to this email that you can use to encourage parents to check out the video podcasts at ontario.ca/abc123. It can be posted on your school website, used in school newsletters or sent in e-mails to parents. Please encourage parents to share this information among themselves.

Besides the video podcasts, the abc123 website has many other resources for parents of elementary students. It has tip sheets and guides in 14 languages to help children from preschool to Grade 6 with reading, writing and math. You may also want to share the video podcasts and other resources in meetings with parents at your school.

Thank you for your support in helping us reach Ontario parents. When we work together to support our students, we all benefit.

Sincerely,

Mary Jean Gallagher
Chief Executive Officer &
Chief Student Achievement Officer
The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat