MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Kevin Costante
Deputy Minister

DATE: June 1, 2011

RE: Safety of Students and Staff

In education, student safety is always a top priority. In light of the unfortunate events of last week it is important that we review processes for health and safety and ensure that your schools and other school board properties maintain the highest standards of safety.

In order to provide a suitable learning environment for our staff and students, it is critical that classroom practice and the learning environment complies with relevant federal, provincial, and municipal health and safety legislation and by-laws, including, but not limited to, the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS), the Food and Drug Act, the Health Protection and Promotion Act, the Ontario Building Code, and the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Original signed by

Kevin Costante