June 24, 2016

Dear colleagues,

I am privileged to write to you today as Ontario’s new Minister of Education.

This is an exciting time to be leading the publicly funded education system of our great province. Together, we have made excellent progress over the last 13 years, but there is still more work to do.

Building on our strong foundation, we will continue to focus on our four key priorities: achieving excellence, ensuring equity, promoting well-being and enhancing public confidence in our publicly funded education system.

We have already raised the bar in student achievement significantly. More than 85 per cent of our students are graduating from high school – compared to just 68 per cent, in 2004. It is thanks to the commitment of our dedicated education partners that we have seen how much we can accomplish by working together.

I also look forward to working with our partners to ensure that our youngest children have the best possible start in life. By continuing to move forward on our early years vision, we are improving the early years and child care system while providing better and more streamlined services for parents and families across Ontario.

I am sure you will agree that it is important to work collaboratively and strengthen our relationships. We must stay focused on helping all children and students reach their full potential. By doing so, we will create a brighter future for our students, and for our province.

I want to thank you for your commitment, continued support and dedication to our province’s children and students. I look forward to working with you as we build a better Ontario.

Sincerely,

Mitzie Hunter, MBA
Minister