MEMORANDUM TO: Principals of Elementary Schools
FROM: Philip Steenkamp
Acting Deputy Minister
DATE: March 13, 2008
RE: Daily Physical Activity (DPA) e-learning workshop poster

I am pleased to inform you the Ministry of Education has developed a new on-line DPA resource for teachers. The DPA e-learning workshop includes helpful information about safety, inclusion, and scheduling. It also has printable activity sheets, and videos of activities on how to implement DPA in the classroom, gymnasium, multipurpose areas, and outdoors. The workshop website is www.eworkshop.on.ca/dpa.

Providing elementary students with opportunities to be physically active each day has a positive impact on their overall well-being and is likely to have an impact on academic achievement and readiness to learn.

Since introducing mandatory Daily Physical Activity (DPA) in 2005, students in Grades 1 to 8 are required to take part in a minimum of 20 minutes of sustained moderate to vigorous daily physical activity during the instructional day. The Ministry of Education has provided school boards with $15 M in funding for training and equipment. In addition, the Ministry has produced and distributed resource guides to help plan and implement DPA. The DPA e-learning workshop brings the teacher resource guides to life.

To promote the e-learning workshop I am enclosing two copies of the new DPA e-learning workshop poster. Please display them in areas where teachers and support staff are most likely to use a computer.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to help Ontario’s students lead healthy, active lives.

Sincerely,

Philip Steenkamp
Acting Deputy Minister

Attachment