March 5, 2008

Dear Principal,

Earlier this year, we sent you information about the Healthy Schools Recognition Program.

We encourage schools to apply by Friday, March 28, 2008 to ensure you receive your certificate and other recognition items by the end of the school year. Participating schools will also be recognized on the Ministry of Education website.

The program provides a valuable opportunity to engage your school community in activities that focus on healthy living, and be recognized for those efforts. We believe a healthy learning environment is essential for students to reach their full potential and we encourage every school in Ontario to participate.

Last year, nearly 1,300 schools participated and in some boards almost every school took part. This was a great achievement and we hope to see even more schools participating this year.

We’ve recently added more tools to the website to spark even more ideas for healthy activities. Now you can:
• Find helpful tips for students and school staff to create a healthier school
• Read about innovative healthy activities Ontario schools implemented in 2006-07
• Search by topic, such as healthy eating, to see what other schools have done.

These tools and the Healthy Schools Recognition Program acceptance form are available online. Find out more on the Ministry of Education or Ministry of Health Promotion websites.

We hope your school will commit to becoming even healthier by participating in the Healthy Schools Recognition Program for 2007/08.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to Ontario’s students.

Sincerely,

Philip Steenkamp
Acting Deputy Minister
Ministry of Education

Cynthia Morton
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Health Promotion

c. Chair of District School Boards
Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers and Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities
Board communications officers