March 18, 2015

Dear Chair,

I am writing to let you know that on March 26, 2015, we will be announcing the 2015-16 Grants for Student Needs (GSN).

The format is slightly different from past years and, instead of a webcast, will feature a video that details changes to the 2015-16 GSN. This video will be available on the Ministry of Education’s website by 2 p.m.

In addition to that, we will also be distributing to school boards — and posting to the ministry’s website — a number of supplemental information, including a memo providing technical details on the 2015–16 GSN, supported with board-by-board projections and a new reader-friendly guide to the education budget.

Further to the 2015-16 GSN, we will also be releasing the new Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG) on March 26, 2015. With this release, school boards will be expected to update their own local accommodation review policies.

Although next year’s education budget is still being finalized, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the feedback and insights you have shared. I can assure you, when you speak, your voice is heard, and I am confident you will see your input reflected in the 2015-16 GSN and updates to PARG. That same spirit of sharing and collaboration is what gives me every confidence that we will realize the goals of Achieving Excellence and improve the quality of education in Ontario.

Thank you for your dedication to Ontario’s students — and for your hard work to improve the quality and sustainability of our publicly funded education system.

Sincerely,

Liz Sandals
Minister

c: Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l’Ontario
    Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques
    Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association
    Ontario Public School Boards’ Association