November 14, 2016

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to share with you a copy of the Well-Being Engagement Paper that was released on Wednesday November 2, 2016.

This marks the official launch of our student well-being engagement process. This engagement is a critical first step towards the development of the ministry’s well-being strategy. To support this process, the ministry will be engaging with students, parents, caregivers and families, education leaders, community partners, and others involved in child and youth development to work together to understand what student well-being means, best practices and current knowledge, and what next steps we can take to make a positive impact.

To support this conversation, and to ensure that we are respectful and inclusive of the diverse needs and unique identities of Indigenous students, communities and partners, the ministry will work collaboratively with our partners, such as the Minister’s Advisory Council on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Working Group, to develop engagement sessions with a focus on indicators of well-being for Indigenous students.

By working with Indigenous partners to co-develop indicators of well-being for Indigenous students, we will be able to ensure that an inclusive and diverse perspective is achieved to inform the next steps in the overall strategy.

I encourage you to share this information with your colleagues and local partners. Further information about the engagement process, including the engagement kit and portal is available at www.ontario.ca/studentwellbeing.

Additional details about engagement sessions focused on indicators of well-being for Indigenous students are currently in the planning stages and will be shared at a later date.

Should you have any questions about the material or the engagement process, please do not hesitate to contact Yael Ginsler, Manager, Safe Schools & Student Well-Being, yael.ginsler@ontario.ca, or Taunya Paquette, Director, Indigenous Education Office, taunya.paquette@ontario.ca.

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Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration.

Sincerely,

Mitzie Hunter, MBA
Minister

Enclosure