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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers and Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities
Director of Provincial Schools

FROM: Elizabeth Harding
Director
Learning Environment Branch

DATE: March 10, 2011

RE: **Food Safety Practices in Schools**

I would like to take this opportunity to remind school boards that food and beverages prepared, processed, served, displayed, stored and sold in schools must be done in accordance with Ontario Regulation 562, "Food Premises", as amended, made under the Health Protection and Promotion Act. The regulation sets out the minimum standards that must be followed and indicates the minimum standards for food storage and cooking temperatures, safe food handling, sanitation, dishwashing and personal hygiene practices. The regulation can be accessed online at http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_900562_e.htm.

I would encourage you to share this information with your principals, food service providers and others that may be preparing, serving or storing food in your schools.

For more information and assistance on food safety, please contact your local public health unit. A list of health units in Ontario may be found at: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc_dt.html#2.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to ensure schools remain a safe and healthy environment in which students can learn, grow and succeed.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Harding
Director

c. Regional Managers, Ministry of Education Regional Offices