

**Memorandum To:** Directors of Education  
Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities  
Early Years Partners

**From:** George Zegarac  
Deputy Minister

**Date:** May 4, 2016

**Subject:** Ontario's Well-Being Strategy for Education

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Building on the goals in *Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario*, the Ministry of Education is pleased to release [Ontario's Well-Being Strategy for Education](#). Elevating well-being as a goal for education in Ontario recognizes its fundamental importance to our learners and their futures.

Over the past decade, we have seen growing evidence recognizing that well-being is fundamental to our learners. We know that positive relationships between learners and educators are essential for learning and achievement. We know that a healthy, safe, accepting, caring and inclusive learning environment is critical for well-being. We know that the well-being of educators and staff help children and students reach their full potential.

Across the province much work has already been done, and continues every day, in pursuit of this goal. Well-being is a goal that is shared across sectors and involves many partners – at the provincial, regional and local levels.

We are committed to engaging with all of our partners to learn from and build on the outstanding efforts already in place across the province to help better understand what promoting well-being means for education and how we can measure progress. And over the coming months, we will release more details on the engagement process, starting with a focus on learners and expanding our commitment to include educators and staff.

Through this Strategy, we will continue to strengthen coherence, alignment and integration across existing work in the early years, elementary and secondary schools, and with educators and staff across both systems. This includes the four key areas of: mental health, safe and accepting schools, healthy schools and equity and inclusive education.

Your ongoing commitment to achieving our shared vision for education is appreciated. I am confident that, through working together, our education system will continue to be a cornerstone of a strong and vibrant Ontario.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Zegarac". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G'.

George Zegarac  
Deputy Minister

Enclosures

c. Council of Ontario Directors of Education