

**Ministry of Education**

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**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Édifice Mowat  
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September 17, 2012

Dear colleague:

Last week I wrote to you regarding the passage of the *Putting Students First Act, 2012*, and next steps. Further to that memo, I am writing to encourage you to help address any parent confusion that now exists regarding extra-curricular activities.

As you likely know, some individuals and groups are choosing to withdraw from their extra-curricular and voluntary activities at school. These activities may include taking students on field trips, coaching sports teams and supervising other after-school activities.

To help ensure that parents and guardians know what activities are available to their children, I encourage you to enhance your communications with parents on these matters. The best way to do this may vary from board to board, but I ask that you take action to dispel confusion and provide useful information to the parents in your board.

This could include posting information on your board or school websites, communicating regularly through board or school newsletters, or sending information by voicemail to parents whose children may have been affected by a change in the status of their activities.

Back-to-school time is often busy and confusing at the best of times, so I encourage you to work to minimize any additional confusion around extra-curricular activities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office at 416-325-2600.

Thank you again for your support of our students and families.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Zegarac".

George Zegarac  
Deputy Minister of Education