

MEMORANDUM TO: Education Partners

FROM: Martyn Beckett
Chief Student Achievement Officer
Assistant Deputy Minister
Student Achievement Division

Denys Giguère
Assistant Deputy Minister
French-Language Teaching, Learning and
Achievement Division

DATE: August 21, 2019

SUBJECT: **Issuance of the Revised Elementary Health and Physical Education Curriculum and Addendum to The Kindergarten Program**

The Ministry of Education has released the revised elementary Health and Physical Education curriculum. The mandatory implementation of the revised curriculum begins in the 2019/2020 school year.

The revised curriculum is now available on the [Ministry of Education website](#) for school boards, school authorities, educators, parents, and partners to access.

In addition, recognizing the importance of safety for our youngest learners, the ministry is introducing learning about online safety and concussion prevention in Kindergarten. The ministry has released [The 2019 Addendum to The Kindergarten Program](#), which includes revisions to two expectations. The Addendum is available now on the Ministry of Education website for implementation this September 2019.

The ministry is also issuing a [Policy/Program Memorandum](#), *Exemption from Instruction related to the Human Development and Sexual Health Expectations in The Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education, Grades 1 to 8, 2019*, which requires boards to develop a policy/procedure that allows parents to exempt their child from instruction of the sexual health education component of the elementary Health and Physical Education curriculum. Board policies must be in place by November 30, 2019. The full Policy/Program Memorandum can be accessed on the Ministry of Education website.

The Ministry of Education will be providing a total of \$2.25M to school boards, school authorities and provincial schools to support the implementation of curricula that is being issued in the 2019-20 school year, including the Grade 10 Career Studies course, the elementary Health and Physical Education curriculum and *The 2019 Addendum to The Kindergarten Program*. This is in addition to the funding announced to support the implementation of the recently revised First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Studies, Grades 9-12 curriculum and Indigenous education across elementary and secondary curricula.

The ministry is also partnering with Ophea, a leader in physical and health education, to support educators in the fall to implement the revised curriculum. The ministry worked with School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO) to enhance learning about mental health in the curriculum. Resources created by SMHO will also be available for educators.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Martyn Beckett

Denys Giguère

cc: Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)
Denise Dwyer, Assistant Deputy Minister, Indigenous Education and Well-Being
Division
Shirley Kendrick, Assistant Deputy Minister, Student Support and Field
Services Division
Regional Office Managers