

Ministry of Education

Education Labour and Finance
Division

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Ministère de l'Éducation

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March 7, 2023

Employer Bargaining Agencies
Employee Bargaining Agencies

Good afternoon,

I am writing to advise that the Ministry of Education is considering moving forward with policy initiatives in which your members may have an interest.

The Minister of Education, under *the Education Act*, is responsible for overseeing Ontario's publicly-funded education system and establishing education policies. In recognition of the fact that Cabinet direction and minister's decisions can impact school board employees and, consistent with the policy disclosure letter of July 15, 2022, the Crown is providing notice as there is a potential impact on working terms and conditions. The Ministry may also seek to consult with you on these issues in other venues, as appropriate.

As part of the Ministry of Education's ongoing policy work, the ministry is considering next steps on the following matters:

- development of a Policy and Program Memorandum on student mental health including mandatory student mental health literacy learning;
- creation of a compulsory Grade 9 or 10 Technological Education credit as a new requirement for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma;
- development of a Grade 10 to Apprenticeship pathway to accelerate students into opportunities in the skilled trades;
- provide a more direct pathway for mature students with a Certificate of Apprenticeship or equivalent to earn their Ontario Secondary School Diploma;
- development of a Policy and Program Memorandum on early reading; and
- updates to Policy and Program Memorandum 159 - Collaborative Professionalism.

The ministry's policy intentions with respect to these initiatives may evolve further, and as part of this ongoing development, other policy matters for review may be identified in the future.

We look forward to a collaborative partnership where we can advance Ontario's public education for the benefit of student learning and success.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Andrew Davis
Assistant Deputy Minister

c: Nancy Naylor, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Education

Matt Beattie, Director (Acting), Labour Relations Operations
Ministry of Education

Heather Diggle, Director, Labour Relations Operations (Bilingual)
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