

Ministry of Education
Provincial Schools Branch
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Ministère de l'Éducation
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February 19, 2016

Dear Students of Provincial and Demonstration Schools and their Families,

I am writing to inform you that the Ministry of Education has begun a consultation with students, families, staff, education partners and community partners on provincial and demonstration schools.

The purpose of the consultation is to explore ways to offer a range of quality programs and services that will provide better outcomes for our students who are Deaf or hard of hearing, blind or have low vision, deafblind, or have learning disabilities and their families. We are also seeking to better understand the knowledge and skills that would best prepare our students for their various pathways in school and life.

Consultations will begin in the coming weeks and will include:

- Centre Jules-Léger (Ottawa) Provincial and Demonstration schools,
- Robarts School for the Deaf (London); and
- English-language demonstration schools for students with severe learning disabilities, including Amethyst Demonstration School in London, Trillium Demonstration School in Milton, and Sagonaska Demonstration School in Belleville.

Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf in Milton, Sir James Whitney School for the Deaf in Belleville, and W. Ross Macdonald School for the Blind in Brantford, will not be included in this process.

Further information, including discussion papers, frequently asked questions (FAQs) and an online survey are posted on the Ministry of Education website (<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/>).

Students and their parents/guardians of the schools that are part of the consultations will be invited to a face-to-face meeting to share their perspectives. Parents/guardians of students will also be invited to attend a meeting with the Minister of Education in the coming weeks.

The needs and well-being of all our students are of paramount importance. It is anticipated that the consultations will conclude this spring. The ministry will then carefully consider the input received from students and families, staff and education and community partners. As plans for moving forward are developed, we will work closely with you to ensure that your perspectives are fully understood.

If required, ASL/LSQ interpretation, braille and alternate formats of this letter can be made available.

If you have any questions, please contact your school principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "June Rogers".

Dr. June Rogers
Executive Director
Provincial Schools Branch