To All Superintendents:

Beginning this fall, all students will be required to participate in daily physical activity (DPA). The DPA curriculum consists of endurance, strength and flexibility activities done at a moderate to vigorous level on a daily basis. Combined with the healthy foods initiative, DPA will contribute to British Columbia’s reputation as having the highest student-health standards in Canada.

Since this initiative was first announced last fall, Ministry of Education staff have been working to help prepare district staff for DPA implementation. Resource materials have been developed and posted on the Ministry website for comment. In partnership with the BC Principals’ and Vice Principals’ Association (BCPVP), a DPA pilot is currently underway in 13 early-leader schools. A second pilot, in partnership with the BC Recreation and Parks Association, gets underway in April; this endeavour will look at ways for senior students to meet their DPA requirements in the community. We look forward to sharing the results of both pilots in the weeks ahead.

Please share the attached one-page DPA overview with your schools and community partners. In the next few weeks, we will announce a series of opportunities designed to assist school and district teams in preparing for implementation of DPA. We will also be launching a new DPA online resource to share ideas and best practices with educators and administrators. In the meantime, more detailed information about all aspects of the DPA program can be found online (www.actnowbc.ca/EN/actnow_bc_for_students). If you have any specific questions, please contact Teresa Saunders at the Graduation Standards Unit by phone (250-387-5647) or email (dailyphysicalactivity@gov.bc.ca).

I look forward to working with all boards and partner groups to ensure the successful implementation of this important initiative aimed at improving the overall health of our students.

Sincerely yours,

James Gorman
Deputy Minister

Attachment