

June 7, 2021

**Memorandum to:** Chairs of District School Boards  
Directors of Education  
School Authorities

**From:** Stephen Lecce  
Minister of Education

Nancy Naylor  
Deputy Minister

**Subject:** Outdoor Year End Celebrations

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We know what an important milestone the end of the school year represents for our students, families and staff.

We also know how important it is to continue our commitment to health and safety at this critical point in the pandemic.

A regulation has been filed under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* to provide publicly-funded and private schools with the opportunity to invite students to return to school in June for short, outdoor celebrations. All celebrations must adhere to the requirements outlined in the [Guidance to End of School Year Celebrations](#). The Guidance outlines health and safety requirements as well as possible approaches boards could consider. School boards may have planned virtual graduation ceremonies which should proceed, augmented by outdoor end of school year celebrations where possible.

Thank you for your commitment to students and families this school year and for everything you are doing to celebrate their successes this year.

Sincerely,

Stephen Lecce  
Minister

Nancy Naylor  
Deputy Minister

- c: President, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)  
Executive Director, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)
- President, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)  
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- President, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)  
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- President, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)  
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- Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)
- President, Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO)  
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- President, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)  
General Secretary, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)
- President, Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)  
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- President, Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)  
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- Chair, Ontario Council of Educational Workers (OCEW)
- Chair, Education Workers' Alliance of Ontario (EWAO)
- President of OSBCU, Canadian Union of Public Employees – Ontario (CUPE-ON)
- Co-ordinator, Canadian Union of Public Employees – Ontario (CUPE-ON)
- Executive Director, Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes (ADFO)
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