

Dear Directors of Education,

Once again, the Summer Learning Program (SLP) provided strong evidence that summer learning loss *can* be minimized and achievement gaps closed, all while offering rewarding and engaging literacy and numeracy programs for primary students.

With funding by the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) continued its role of providing leadership and coordination for the 2013 SLP. There are many success stories and research findings to relate from last summer's program, and we're pleased to present an overview of these achievements in the attached report, *Summer Learning Is...*

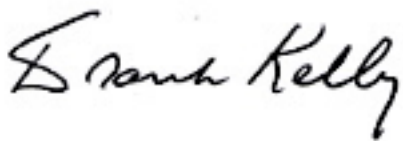
Most notable for this year's report is a lively and informative video (enclosed) that provides an exciting glimpse into summer learning in Ontario. Recorded last year at SLP locations across the province, the *Summer Learning Is...* DVD provides a front-row perspective of summer learning in action, and the positive impact SLPs have on students, parents and teachers alike.

As the attached research summary makes plain, there is no doubt that participating in the Summer Learning Program made a real life difference for the 2013 students and the learning extended even further: Teachers reported their involvement as enriching and a "great professional development" opportunity, while parents related how they have become increasingly engaged and supportive partners in their child's learning.

I wholeheartedly encourage you to share, with pride, the 2013 Summer Learning Program report and DVD with teachers, system leaders, parents and the broader community.

On behalf of everyone at CODE, my sincere thanks for your leadership and the hard work of your staff in making summer learning such an important and beneficial program for your students.

Regards,



Frank Kelly  
Executive Director  
Council of Ontario Directors of Education

Enclosed: *Summer Learning Is...* The Continuing Story of Summer Learning Programs in Ontario 2013 Report