



**Memo to Student Support Teachers and Principals
Re: GSSD Swim Program**

The GSSD Swim Program at the Gallagher Centre will continue for those schools interested in participating for the 2014/2015 school year.

For the 2014/2015 School year, the swim program will occur on the following dates:

- THURSDAY, OCT 16, 2014
- THURSDAY, NOV 20, 2014
- THURSDAY, JAN 22, 2015
- THURSDAY, FEB 26, 2015
- THURSDAY, MAR 19, 2015
- THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2015
- THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015

The pool is reserved for us from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and students must be back at school in time to catch their buses home, thus you will need to plan lunch break and departure times accordingly.

To participate in this program, please be aware of the following guidelines:

- **There must be one teacher in attendance from each area (South, Central, and North). You can confer with other schools in your area who participate in the program and alternate attendance amongst yourselves. (Rather than hiring a sub to cover for you when it's your turn to supervise, please try to arrange internal coverage).**
- **EAs in attendance must be in the water interacting with students.**
- **Students must meet Intensive Support (IS) Criteria or be a peer of a student who meets IS Criteria. A peer may participate if the PPP goal for the IS student is to socialize with peers during the swim program.**
- **As indicated above, the students' IIP should reflect the value of this program if they are participating in it. (i.e. swimming may support leisure/recreation goals, gross motor skill goals, or social goals)**
- **A list of students and EAs who will be participating from your school must be provided to your SSC prior to swim days.**



- **Please list the names of students participating on the completed Field Trip request Form (261-1) and forward this to your principal.**
- **Parent Permission forms need to be completed for each student and shared with your principal.**

Note: If your students are currently participating in a swim program under another initiative (e.g. QVRA), please continue to take advantage of that program. You may want to supplement your program by participating in both opportunities, or start in the division-wide program at a later date.

FYI: Our OTs are aware of these times and will attend when possible to support fun, therapeutic activities that can be carried out in the water.

FYI: The students from rural schools often visit a local restaurant to eat lunch following the swimming outing, but you are free to make your own arrangements for lunch or return to school for lunch depending on your location.

If you have any further questions or concerns regarding your students' participation in this program, please contact your SSC.