



# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Dear Superintendent:

Enclosed are packets for your district regarding the **Exertional Heat Illness Project**. This project is a collaboration of several agencies and organizations in Arkansas and other states. Each packet contains the following items:

- 1- DVD regarding Exertional Heat Illness
- 1- Exertional Heat Illness Checklist
- 2- Posters for display
- 1- Bee Hydrated brochure for younger students
- 1- Letter from the Arkansas Activities Association
- 1- Quick Reference card for parents/caregivers
- 1- Stakeholder sheet listing those who have assisted with the project

You should receive one (1) packet for each Elementary or Middle School and two (2) packets for each Junior High or High School in your district. Our hope is that you will take a leadership role in disseminating this information to principals and encourage leaders to share the information with students, teachers, band directors, athletic directors, ROTC directors, and anyone that may come in contact with students susceptible to heat illness. I encourage you to view the DVD and discuss with your staff the many ways to disseminate the information to players and members, parents and extended family, community groups and other leaders. The information is intended to be informative and provide a means to start conversations with those mentioned above and with local EMS about how your district can address heat related illness issues in the future.

Should any faculty, parent, or student need additional information, please contact the organizations listed on the enclosed materials. A point of contact at the Arkansas Department of Health is Jack Hill, EMS-Children Program Manager. He may be reached at 501-280-4902 or emailed at [jack.hill@arkansas.gov](mailto:jack.hill@arkansas.gov). To successfully prevent Exertional Heat Illness it will take a cooperative effort from School Administrators, Parents, Students, Activity Directors, Coaches, and Emergency Medical Services.

Our goal is to provide curricular and extracurricular activities that are engaging but safe for our students. Please join me in promoting the **Exertional Heat Illness Project** and preventing heat illness.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Wood".

Tony Wood, Commissioner

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