



Creating a Culture...

of Innovation, Caring and Social Responsibility.



REGISTER TO BECOME A DELEGATE

Fostering a Culture of Caring

(Reference: [Ottawa-Carleton District School Board By-Laws and Standing Rules](#))

Individuals or groups are welcome to appear as a delegation to express their concerns, provide comments or ask questions on any matter within the mandate of the Board or Committee. In accordance with the Board's bylaws, delegations shall be permitted up to four (4) minutes to address the Board where the delegation has provided a written submission no later than 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the meeting. Delegations registering after the cutoff shall be granted two (2) minutes. All interested delegates must complete and submit the following form.

Once you have submitted your request, a member of the Board Services team will be in touch with you to confirm the delegation and provide the necessary meeting details and instructions.

If you have any questions regarding the delegation process please contact Nicole Guthrie, Manager of Board Services at nicole.guthrie@ocdsb.ca

Also, please note that the Board and Committee of the Whole meetings are video and audio recorded.

Contact Information

First Name: *

Joanne

Last Name: *

Doucette

Address: *

[REDACTED]

Address 2:

City: *

Ottawa

Province or Territory: *

Ontario

Postal Code: *

[REDACTED]

Phone Number: *

[REDACTED]

Email Address: *

[REDACTED]

Confirm Email Address: *

Please re-enter your email address.

[REDACTED]

Delegation issue information

Fields marked with an * are required

Meeting Type: *

Board

Meeting Date: *

6/21/2021

Summary of issue/concern: *

I would like to present my request that the Board of Trustees take an advocacy role for students to return to a more typical school year in 2021-2022, including high school students returning to a regular semester system and attending school full days 5 days a week, rather than the hybrid model.

As a parent and social worker, I feel strongly that there is minimal risk to students in the fall, given:

- vaccination rates, including youth 12 and up being vaccinated
- the science and data regarding how children are not at high risk of serious illness with COVID
- the evolving safety of the vulnerable in our community, such as elderly, due to vaccinations, and therefore the decreased need for measures to reduce hospitalizations.

Children should now be a priority as they have sacrificed so much to protect adults from COVID. The Code Pink campaign is highlighting the many risks to their emotional, physical and social well-being due to the pandemic and worsened by school closures. Children need a return to normal routines, including moving away from quadesters which can create significant learning gaps and disengagement from school for more vulnerable students. They need a return of extra curricular activities, such as sports, music and clubs, that provide much needed connection to their school community and improve health outcomes.

Recommendation(s) for resolution of issue: *

- A return to regular semester systems, NOT quadmester or octomester
- Less focus on cohorting - allow students to have contact with friends outside their small cohort and to participate in activities again
- Maintain some of the Public Health measures that are less harmful to students if necessary, such as wearing masks in larger group gatherings and hand sanitizing.
- Education for the school community about a gradual return to normalcy and support to overcome anxiety resulting from the pandemic. Create a focus on balancing risks - understanding there are risks to every approach, but it is time to choose actions that address the proven risk to youth of not having access to normal school routines, such as:
 - the increase in mental health issues such as eating disorders, anxiety, depression, OCD, suicidal ideation.
 - the increase in physical health issues such as obesity
 - learning gaps as a result of unproven methods of teaching, such as the hybrid approach/ virtual learning and quadmester system.

Date: *

6/5/2021

Personal Information as defined by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) is collected under the authority of the Education Act and the Municipal Act, in accordance with the provisions of MFIPPA. Please be aware that your name and the summary of concern and remedies sought are subject to disclosure by way of publication of the agenda on the Board's website.