



# 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](mailto: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: \*

Michael

Last Name: \*

O'Connor

Address: \*

[Redacted]

Address 2:

City:

[Redacted]

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: \*

9/28/2021

**Please provide a brief summary of main points for the issue/concern: \***

Board policy prevents high school students from playing wind instruments indoors. There are no opportunities for exceptions even when mitigation such as physical distancing indoors. The policy is completely out of step with other school and community activities. For example, choirs are allowed to assemble and sports (including basketball and hockey, where opposing players are literally touching each other and breathing directly in each others' faces) have resumed. Current policy is not in keeping with local public health guidelines, practices in other boards, provincial Ministry of Education guidelines, community activities. Consequently, students in wind instrument educational programs, who have already lost almost 18 months of meaningful practical educational experience, continue to lose out on their education and critical social development. Most importantly, many of these highly motivated and talented students have lost hope of any chance of a return to play, which has been devastating psychologically. This will negatively impact Board music programs and their associated schools for years to come. Students, parents, and educators deserve a valid scientific explanation for the Board's stance that is in keeping with other school, community, and public practices; otherwise a change in policy should be immediately enacted.

**Recommendation(s) for resolution of issue: \***

Lift the ban on playing wind instruments immediately. If the Board feels it is necessary out of an abundance of caution, consider requiring students to be fully immunized against SARS-COV2 and/or for instrument covers to be placed over the bell of each instrument when players are spaced <2 m apart.

**Date: \***

9/28/2021

*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.*