

# 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: \* Last Name: \* KAYLA **ESTRIN** Address: \* Address 2:

## Delegation issue information

Fields marked with an \* are required

Meeting Type: \* Committee of the Whole Meeting Date: \* 6/7/2022

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

As a mother of an OCDSB student, I recognize the rights of any student group to protest outside school hours and to promote issues respectfully, even when those views may be in part inaccurate.

The objectives and the recommendations provided by the Palestine Youth Movement of Ottawa to the extent that they reject the existence of the State of Israel or the right of the Jewish people to self-determination (i.e., Zionism) are antisemitic. This creates a toxic culture for Jewish and Israeli students. Hate is hate, even when it's in the guise of social justice. Demonizing Israel falls into that category.

High school is not a place to solve the conflict between the State of Israel and Palestinian Arabs. It is a place to promote critical thinking about history, to promote resolving conflict respectively and to create safe spaces for our students.

OCDSB has a range of vehicles to support different groups (culture clubs, awareness months), and an opportunity to promote critical thinking on issues in lesson plans. It does not need to, and should not, adopt positions on international conflicts that promote risks to students and staff.

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

Have the school board adopt and promote the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism, which has been adopted by the Government of Canada (and over 30 other democratic countries) and the Government of Ontario to guide an understanding of when healthy criticism of Israel crosses the line into antisemitism.

Educate students and teachers on what antisemitism and Zionism are and how they are inextricably linked.

Reject recommendations to "combat Zionism within OCDSB" because this is antisemitism.

Ensure that activities by student groups regardless of objective be conducted in a respectful manner and not contribute to a toxic environment, especially for Jewish students and teachers.



6/7/2022

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.