

Carolyn Moffatt– Planning for Return to School – 9 July 2020

- I am concerned with a part-time "**hybrid**" plan which will have students out of school for 3 days a week **without evidence that it would keep kids, teachers and families safer than a full time program with added hygiene measures.**
- I am concerned about the **lack of an evidence-based best practice document for cleaning and disinfection of school environments**
- I am concerned about the lack of a commitment to **training custodian staff** to clean appropriately for a virus-prone setting, and **lack of funding commitment in order to give them *supplies* and *staff* to clean high touch surfaces *throughout the school day*.**
- I am concerned with the **lack of air flow in many schools**, which will lead to virus-containing microdroplets circulating within the classes without a way to evacuate them from the room. HVAC upgrades need to happen during the summer to make the class rooms safer for staff and students, or critical levels of virus will build up from asymptomatic carriers, making the air of our classrooms dangerous. These HVAC upgrades can start out simply, by allowing windows to fully open (with safety bars if necessary) and having a standard domestic fan move the air out the windows. This would allow time for a more comprehensive approach before the winter closed-air time approaches.
- I want the OCDSB to explore creative options for reducing indoor cohort sizes, including using outdoor classrooms (with tents if needed), renting community spaces, and exploring the use of portables and even construction trailers for temporary small-cohort classrooms.

School administrators and custodial managers have the responsibility to prevent and control infectious diseases in schools and to protect students, teachers, and the public by ensuring the most effective cleaning and disinfection practices are used.

I have heard that parent delegation spots have been denied for Thursday's meeting, and I am upset to hear this and need to have these concerns acknowledged publicly. I am prepared to speak at Thursday's online meeting and will keep my points concise and within the allotted time.