

Angelina Wan - Planning for Return to School – 9 July 2020

Dear Sirs and Madams,

My children would be going to JK and Grade 2 in September. In an email addressed to parents two week ago, OCDSB has informed us that the Board would tentatively go with the hybrid model, where children would be in school two days a week, potentially for the entire school year of 2020-21.

This is an unsustainable model for a year. We survived the 15 weeks that we were asked to have our children home. The children are now back in organized care since the beginning of the month and we have noticed a profound change in their moods. They come home happy and exhausted from playing with their peers. Socialization, which is so essential for young children, cannot be taught through online learning.

From a public health perspective, we intend to seek child care or camps for the days in which the children are out of school so that we can work. This would completely undermine the premise that children would be in the same cohort and therefore mitigate transmission risk. It would therefore be better from a cohorting perspective to have the children in full time school, five days a week.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Angelina Wan
Ottawa