

Hello,

My name is Nathan Gordon. I am a parent of three primary aged kids who will be attending Elmdale Public School this fall. I am speaking today to ask for education to be prioritized for students this fall.

Barring a second wave and public health advice to the contrary, I ask that students, especially primary students be given the opportunity for full-time in-person instruction for five days per week in the fall.

Health impacts

Health experts and institutions (including CHEO) are recommending full-time school for children and I'm happy to send the reports to you if you are not aware. These experts and institutions put forward that kids are best served being at school during school hours for five days per week and that all actions and accommodations should be based on this objective.

Learning environment

Our kids need to learn in a learning environment. For younger children with parents who work full-time, they do not and will not receive the attention and the education they deserve to learn.

Additional resources

If there are additional resources that are needed from the province and perhaps through reallocation, I urge you to make this your top priority. Do not give up until you have the resources that our kids need for full-time public education.

Thinking outside the box

I also ask that you think outside the box to make full-time in-person instruction happen. This could mean outdoor classes, using the gym for physical distanced classrooms, considering a four day school week with only one day for virtual learning.

Focus

The focus of parents, kids and wider society are directed at you and the decisions you have to make. Kids deserve to be in school full-time. Public education should not become second tier education.

Thank you,

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