



Delegation

Name: Greg Macdougall

Summary of main points for the issue/ concern:

I hope this idea can be taken up and implemented to protect the health of OCDSB students and staff, and the greater community.

The idea is to improve ventilation standards at the Board.

It is not totally clear to me where things are at with air quality in schools, but it is my understanding they are not necessarily consistent, and — at least in the past — there have been policies communicated AGAINST using Corsi Rosenthal Boxes ('do-it-yourself' inexpensive but effective air filters) and opening windows during cold weather.

First and foremost, the health of the students in your care is your responsibility.

Evidence backs up all the following ideas:

- COVID is airborne, and that means it circulates and collects in the air, beyond the "6 foot rule".
- Corsi Rosenthal Boxes — along with other effective air quality strategies — do work.
- Getting infected with COVID is likely causing more long-term impacts than commonly understood.
- A new variant, with a high level of transmissiveness reminiscent of the Omicron at the start of 2022, is just starting to spread in Ontario
- Youth and schools are a prime vector in spreading COVID in the community.

The last point relates both to your responsibility as noted above, but also to the larger community in keeping transmission lower.

I will send references by email to evidence sources as a footnote, and I will note I could speak much more thoroughly to this issue and the reasons to take up this/ these policies, but I hope this will be sufficient.



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I think that, after the pandemic, insufficiently addressing air quality will be looked back upon as negligence.

Recommendation(s) for resolution of issue:

I urge you to ensure Corsi Rosenthal Boxes are permitted to be used in classrooms.

I also urge that you ensure there is promotion for them, including that some equity funds be assigned for classrooms where informal donations (from parents, etc) aren' t forthcoming.

I also urge you to look into other measures that you can take that will improve air quality in classrooms across the board: using HEPA as much as possible; open windows policy; measuring air quality levels; etc.

And, I urge that some trustee(s) other than Trustee Kaplan- Myrth take the leadership on getting these policies passed and implemented, due to the extreme nature of abuse and harassment she has endured for leading the push for a mask mandate (even though this issue is anywhere near as controversial).