

**Name: Frances McRae**

**Summary of main points for the issue/ concern:**

I am the parent of two children in OCDSB schools who identify in the LGBTQI community. I would like to speak about the rise in transphobia and homophobia in schools, and how it is hurting children and adding to mental health stresses to a significant degree. I would like to use Statistics Canada research to demonstrate the impacts of hate (including cyber victimization) directed at LGBTQ kids - and the trans community in particular - on issues such as safety in schools and in the community, as well as at home in cases where family acceptance of LGBTQI children is in question

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

That the OCDSB take time to sensitize educators and parents about the evidence of the short and long-term impact of hate on children, and the actions that can be taken on how this kind of hate can be detected and addressed through schools, to improve student safety and ensure human rights are respected for all genders and gender identities. If we do not do what we can in schools to protect children and to ensure hate expression is not allowed, we are collectively failing our children and the future society in which they will be the adults.