



BOARD (PUBLIC) Report 18-126

11 December 2018

OCDSB Draft Response to Ministry Consultation on Education in Ontario

Key Contact: Michele Giroux, Executive Officer, Corporate Services, (ext. 8607)

PURPOSE:

1. To seek approval for the Board's response to the Ministry Consultation on Public Education.

CONTEXT:

2. The Ministry of Education is conducting a consultation on education in Ontario. People across the province were invited to submit their opinions in the following areas:
 - Improving student performance in science, technology, engineering and math;
 - Preparing students with needed job skills, such as skilled trades and coding;
 - Improving provincial standardized testing;
 - Ensuring students graduate with important life skills, including financial literacy;
 - Managing the use of technology in classrooms, such as cell phones;
 - Building a new age-appropriate health and physical education curriculum that includes subjects like mental health, sexual health education, and the legalization of cannabis; and
 - Developing the first-ever Parents' Bill of Rights.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

3. The Ad Hoc Committee to Develop an Advocacy Strategy met on 6 November 2018 to consider the Board's response to the call for input. During their discussions, the Committee also considered input that was provided by parents at a session hosted by the Parent Involvement Committee at the Parent Conference on 3 November 2018 (attached as Attachment B).

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Develop an Advocacy Strategy meeting of 6 November 2018 was presented to the Board at its meeting on 20 November 2018. Attached to the report was a draft response to the Ministry of Education. Board members were invited to provide additional comments, if desired.

The deadline for the submission of feedback is 15 December 2018.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

4. There are no financial implications anticipated with the response to the Ministry's consultation on education in Ontario.

COMMUNICATION/CONSULTATION ISSUES:

5. In addition to including the draft response in the agenda package for the Board meeting on 20 November 2018, parents and other community members have been encouraged several times to submit input.

STRATEGIC LINKS:

6. The Board's 2015-2019 Strategic Plan includes a commitment to promoting a culture which actively encourages parental and community involvement in public education to support positive outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board approve the draft response to the December 2018 Ministry consultation (Attached as Appendix A to Report 18-126) for submission to the Ministry of Education.

Michele Giroux
Executive Officer
Corporate Services

Jennifer Adams
Director of Education and Secretary of
the Board

Attachments:

Attachment A	Draft OCDSB Response to the December 2018 Ministry Consultation
Attachment B	Notes from the PIC Workshop on Ministry Consultation, 3 November 2018