



To: Board

DATE: 26 January 2021

RE: Support for Families Facing Significant Internet Costs

Trustee Hough has given notice that she will move as follows at the Board meeting 26 January 2021, in keeping with section 13.1 of the Board's By-Laws and Standing Rules:

WHEREAS the funding provided by the Ministry to school boards for technology enables the provision of the tools students need to learn remotely, it does not address the affordability challenges that families are faced with as students continue to learn from home; and

WHEREAS the Ministry's Support for Learners one time payment provision to help with additional costs during the 2020-2021 school year due to COVID-19 is not enough to support families as they continue to incur significant internet costs through the provincewide shutdown;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board ask the Premier and Minister of Education to improve access to internet services for families by:

- A. Resuming negotiations with large service providers for lower data rates;
- B. Lobbying the federal government and the CRTC to take action to lower internet costs; and
- C. Providing direct financial relief in the form of a non-taxable grant or refundable tax credit for families with children learning remotely.

Camille Williams-Taylor
Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board

Michèle Giroux
Executive Officer
Corporate Services

Signatures on this Notice of Motion confirm that the Notice was submitted in accordance with Section 12.9 of the Board's By-laws and Standing Rules.