

Bluewater District School Board

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Sent by email: stephen.lecce@pc.ola.org

October 23, 2020

The Honourable Stephen Lecce Minister of Education 315 Front Street West, 14th Floor Toronto, Ontario M7A 0B8

Dear Minister Lecce:

On behalf of Bluewater District School Board, we are writing in support of Halton District School Board's request for a review and update of Ontario Regulation 463/97 (Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance) as outlined in their letter dated October 14, 2020.

While our trustees have returned to in-person board and committee meetings to coincide with the recent reopening of schools, we agree that the current regulation should be expanded to reflect the many strides in technology since the regulation's enactment in 1997. We also agree that the regulation does not account for extraordinary circumstances where fully digital meetings could be held utilizing technology that is readily available to us.

As always, our commitment remains focused on providing a quality education for every student in a safe, accepting, and caring environment.

Sincerely,

Jan Johnstone

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Chair

Jane Thomson Vice-Chair

cc: MPP Bill Walker, Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Lisa Thompson, Huron-Bruce MPP Jim Wilson, Simcoe-Grey Marit Stiles, NDP Education Critic Ontario Public School Boards' Association

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