

October 23, 2020

The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education  
Ministry of Education  
5th Floor  
438 University Ave  
Toronto, ON  
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Dear Minister Lecce,

I am writing to you today to express my support for the letter that the Simcoe District School Board shared with you on August 31, 2020, by asking the Ministry of Education to join boards across the province in acknowledging the existence of systemic racism in society.


We believe that a Ministry review of curriculum documents through an equity lens and the necessary updates are required as society moves through a world-wide awakening of the realities of systemic racism and social-justice.

We can no longer ignore the importance of addressing racism, hate and oppression, and its correlation with our students' achievement and well-being. The resources and texts used to teach our students must represent them and their lived experiences.

Recently, your government showed work in this area, releasing the new Mathematics curriculum, which now emphasizes Human Rights and Equity and Inclusion in mathematics. This is a great start and a step in the right direction. We must keep moving forward and make these changes in all areas of study.

We support the Simcoe District School Board in their call to have the Ministry review and update curriculum documents through an equity lens. The well-being of all students in Ontario will benefit from seeing themselves represented and valued in their classroom work.

Sincerely,



Jayne Herring  
Chairperson of the Board of Trustees  
Waterloo Region District School Board

CC:  
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