

Waterloo Region District School Board 51 Ardelt Avenue Kitchener, ON N2C 2R5 T: 519-570-0003 F: 519-742-1364 wrdsb.ca

February 23, 2024

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

Dear Minister Lecce,

At its meeting on November 27, 2023, the Board of Trustees for the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB), agreed to write to you to express support for the Thames Valley District School Board letter dated November 22, 2023 regarding Mental Health Supports.

Like Thames Valley District School Board, the WRDSB is concerned regarding the pressure on the Board to address student mental health challenges and sees the impact of decreased resources for community mental health organizations.

The WRDSB would also like to see "greater conversation about how all levels of government can work together to better balance and fund community-based mental health support services, so that all the organizations, including school boards, can work together for the benefit of children, youth and families."

Sincerely,

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Joanne Weston Chairperson of the Board of Trustees Waterloo Region District School Board

cc: WRDSB Trustees and Student Trustees Ontario Public School Boards' Association Member Board Chairs Local Members of Provincial Parliament

