



Waterloo Region District School Board

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May 22, 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 February 12, 2024, the Board of Trustees for the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB), agreed to write to inquire about multiple and long-standing vacancies in The Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE) and what is planned to fill these vacancies.

The MACSE serves a vital role in providing advice to the Minister of Education about the development and delivery of programs and services for students with special education needs and identifying and providing early intervention programs.

The WRDSB Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) has concerns about the multiple and long-standing vacancies with more set to expire in the near future. SEAC is concerned that these vacancies may be limiting the work of MACSE. As you are aware, the members of MACSE represent various exceptionalities to address the wide range of circumstances that may affect a student's ability to learn. They are meant to be inclusive of all medical conditions, whether diagnosed or not, that can lead to particular types of learning difficulties.

The WRDSB and WRDSB SEAC kindly request that the Ministry of Education provide insight regarding the timeline to appoint members to the vacant MACSE positions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joanne Weston".

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
WRDSB Special Education Advisory Committee Chair
Local Members of Provincial Parliament