February 2, 2022

The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health

Dear Dr. Moore, Dr. Wang and Minister Lecce,

At its January 17, 2022, Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB), the Board of Trustees approved the following motion:

That the WRDSB Trustees request that the Chair write letters to the CMOH (Chief Medical Officer of Health), the local MOH (Medical Officer of Health) and the MOE (Minister of Education) requesting the following:

1) Student and staff access to PCR testing in cases of high risk exposure and suspected COVID-19;

2) Support and implementation of a “Test to Return” strategy following COVID-19 illness and exposure, supported by an adequate rapid antigen test supply;

3) Continued funding and adequate supplies of rapid antigen tests for all students and staff;

4) Funding for ventilation upgrades, beyond portable HEPA units and continued CVRIS funding to ensure a long-term commitment to student and staff health;

5) Full reimbursement of all school board pandemic-related costs, above and beyond COVID-19 related funding already provided by the Ministry of Education.

As we continue to navigate the pandemic, we ask for your full support of these measures that prioritize the health, safety and well-being of our students, staff and families both now and into the future.

Sincerely,

Scott Piatkowski
Chairperson of the Board of Trustees
Waterloo Region District School Board

CC:
Ontario Public School Boards’ Association
Ontario Public School Boards
MPP Amy Fee
MPP Catherine Fife
MPP Michael Harris
MPP Belinda Karahalios
MPP Laura Mae Lindo