



**Waterloo Region District School Board**

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October 7, 2021

Karen Redman, Regional Chair, Region of Waterloo  
Regional Council, Region of Waterloo  
Region of Waterloo  
150 Frederick Street  
Kitchener, ON, N2G 4J3

Dear Chair Redman and Regional Council,

In June 2021, the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) Board of Trustees voted to end the School Resource Office (SRO) Program, effective immediately, due to the disproportionately negative impact of the SRO Program on Black, Indigenous, and racialized students.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees for the WRDSB, I am writing to request funds previously used to deliver the SRO Program within the WRDSB be reallocated to community-based services for children and youth. Our staff look forward to working together to provide these services in consultation with our Indigenous, Black and racialized students and communities.

The WRDSB and the larger community are tasked with ensuring our students' well-being, safety and ability to thrive. Reallocating the SRO funding to community based services for youth, will support the students in our community with programs staffed by professionals that have expertise in helping youth in a positive, inclusive environment where they feel comfortable and welcome.

This is an important opportunity to support students and ensure safe and caring school communities. We ask for the Regional Council's serious consideration of this request as we all work together to positively support students in our community.

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: Ontario Public School Boards' Association, Ontario Public School Boards

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